



yui sakuma

5

complex age



Complex age
Yui sakuma

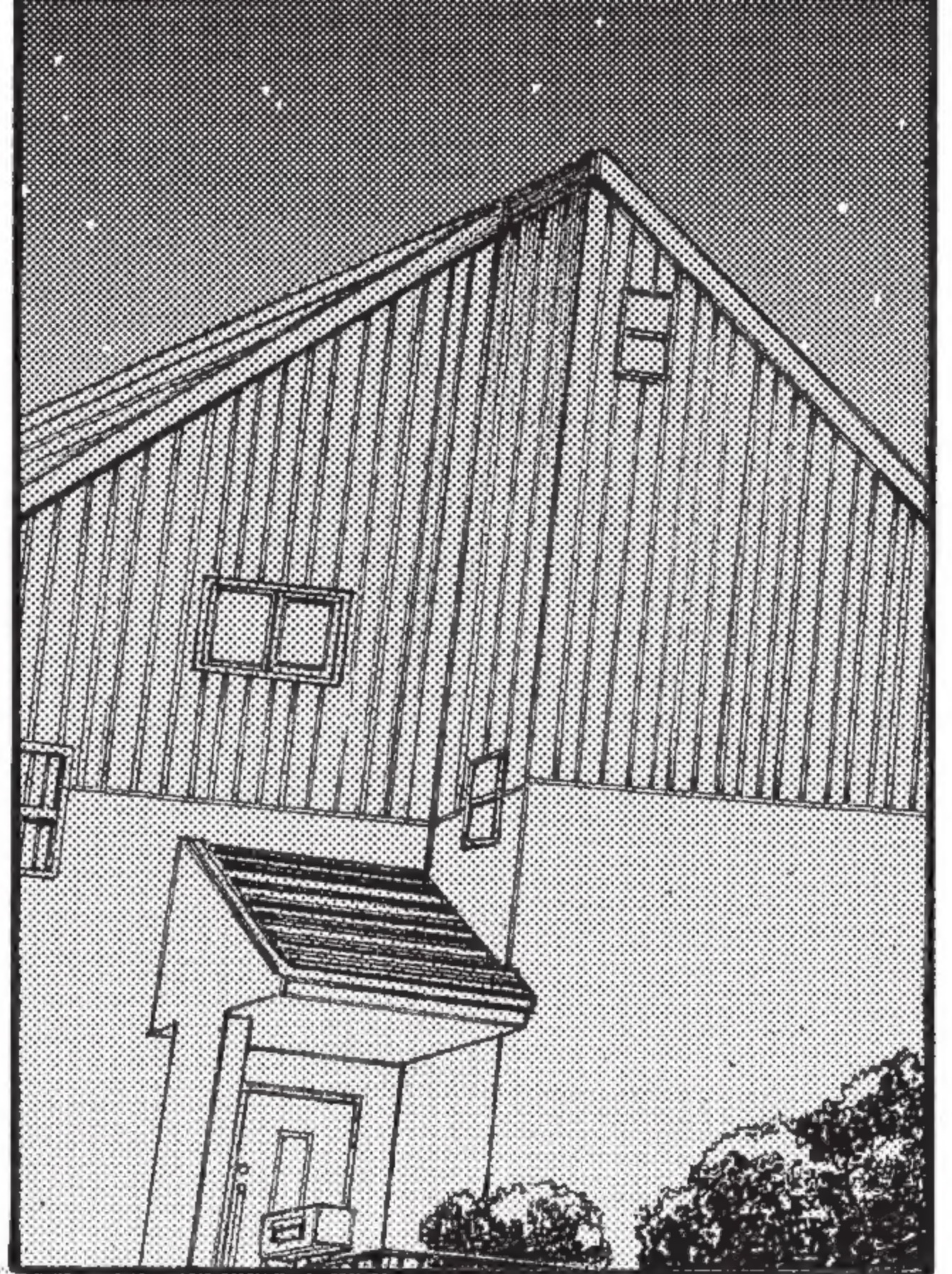
C O N T E N T S

C o m p l e x a g e

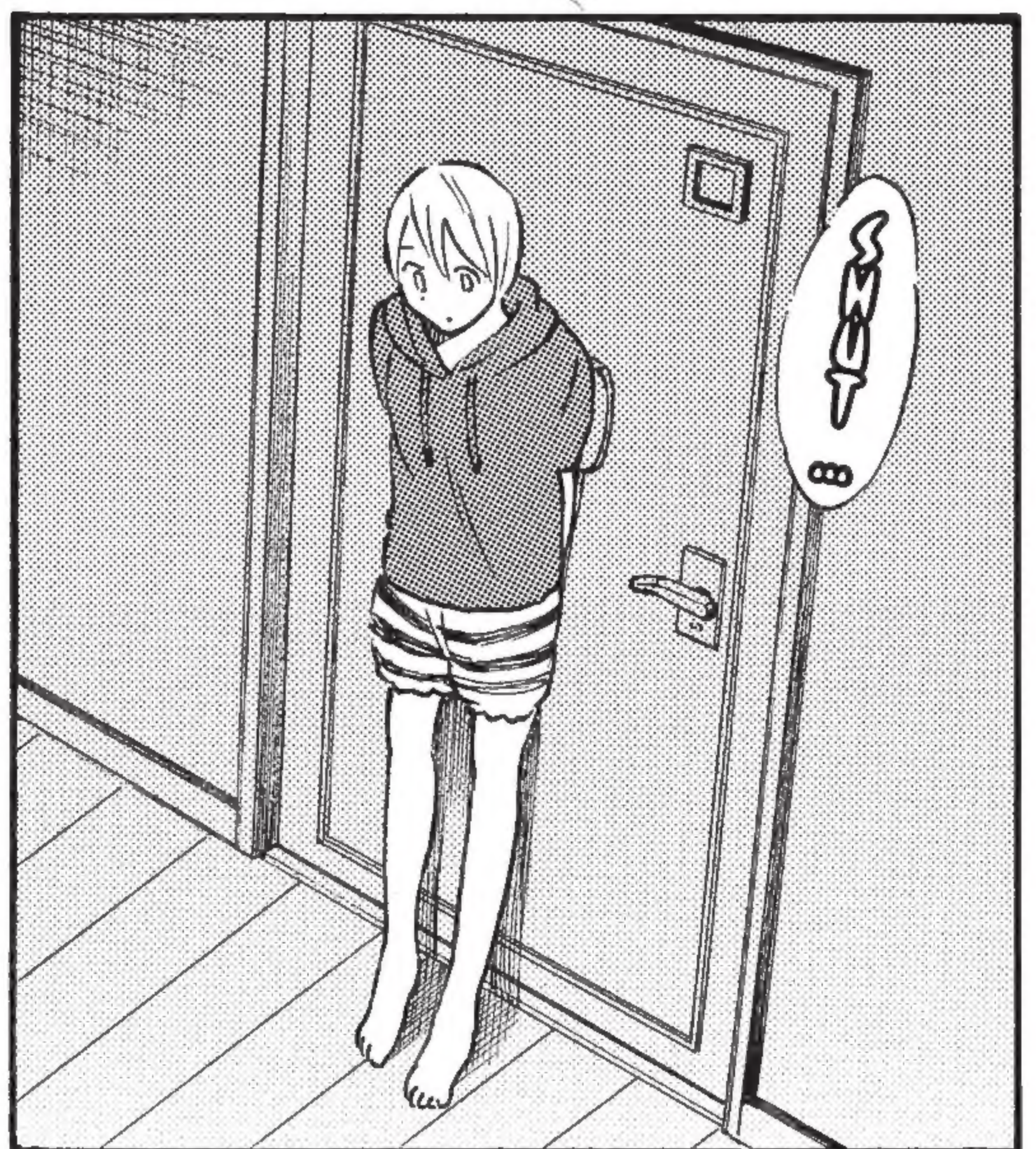
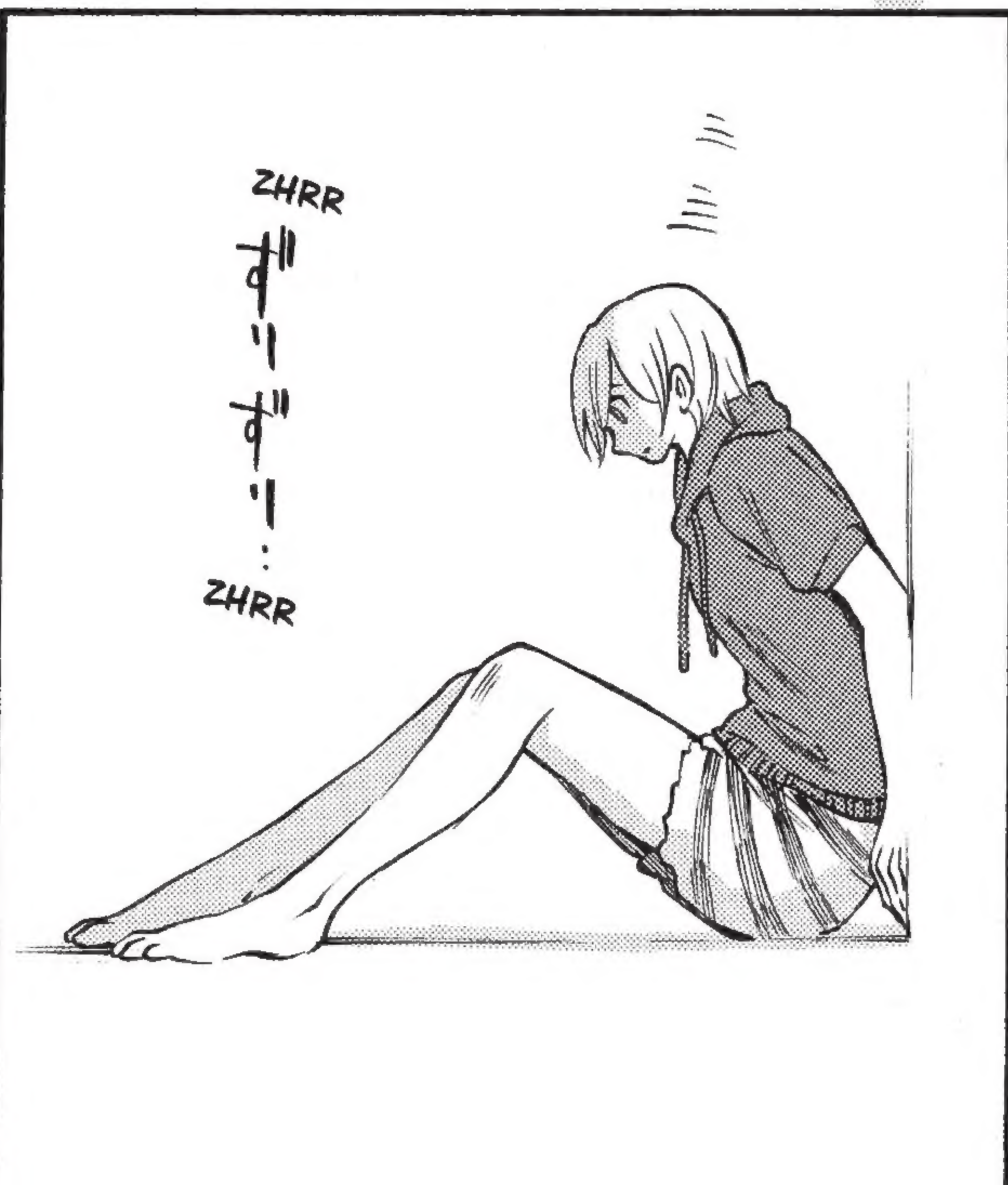
n.34.....	3
n.35.....	25
n.36.....	45
n.37.....	65
n.38.....	85
n.39.....	105
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Cospedia: Glossary of Cosplay Terms	193
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n.34
Complex age





10 years ago, June

Sign: Nian High School



KATAURA-SAN.



MURMUR

ONCE YOU'RE IN YOUR NEW SEAT, WRITE YOUR NAME DOWN.

UGH, I'M IN FRONT!

MURMUR



HEY THERE,
NEW SEAT
NEIGHBOR.
HOW'S IT
GOIN'?



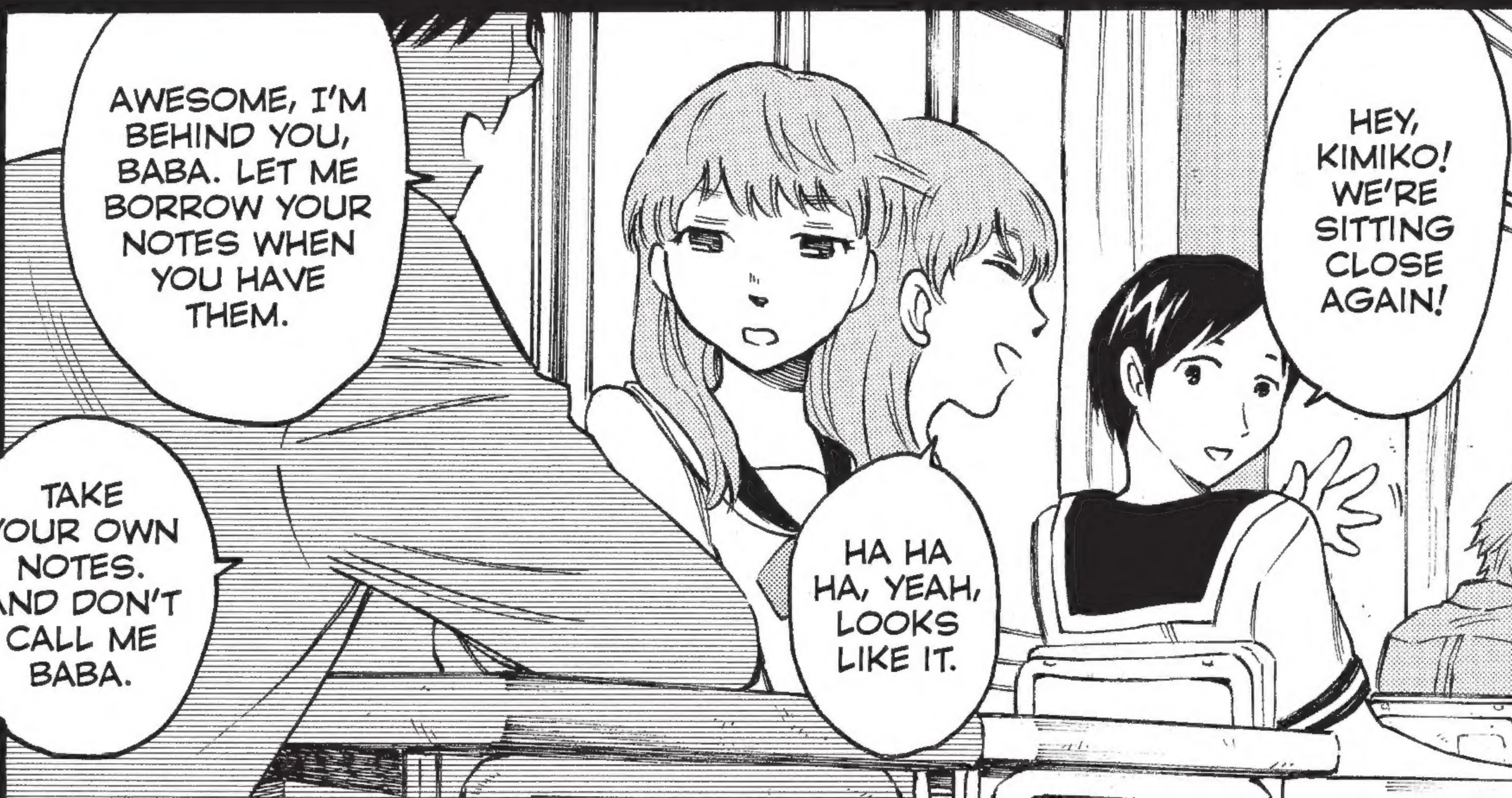
KIMIKO
BABA.

UM...
OH
YEAH.

I'M
KIMIKO.



UH...
HI.

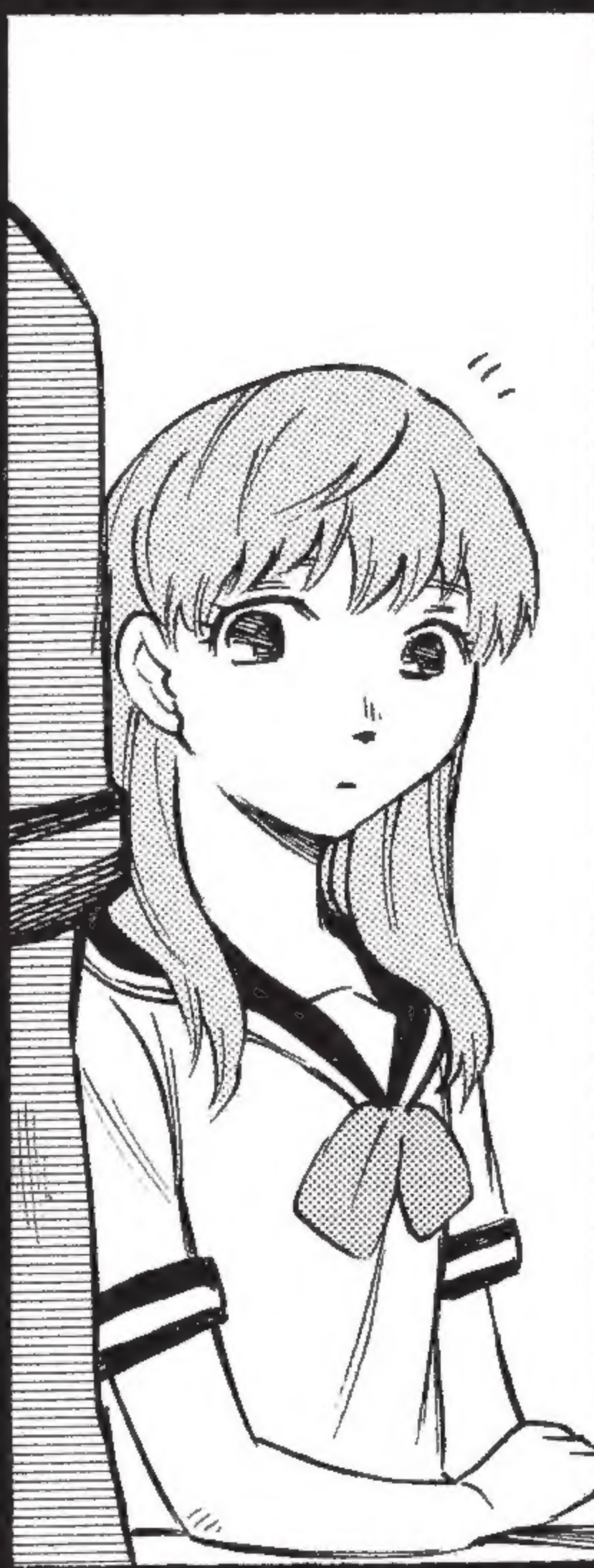
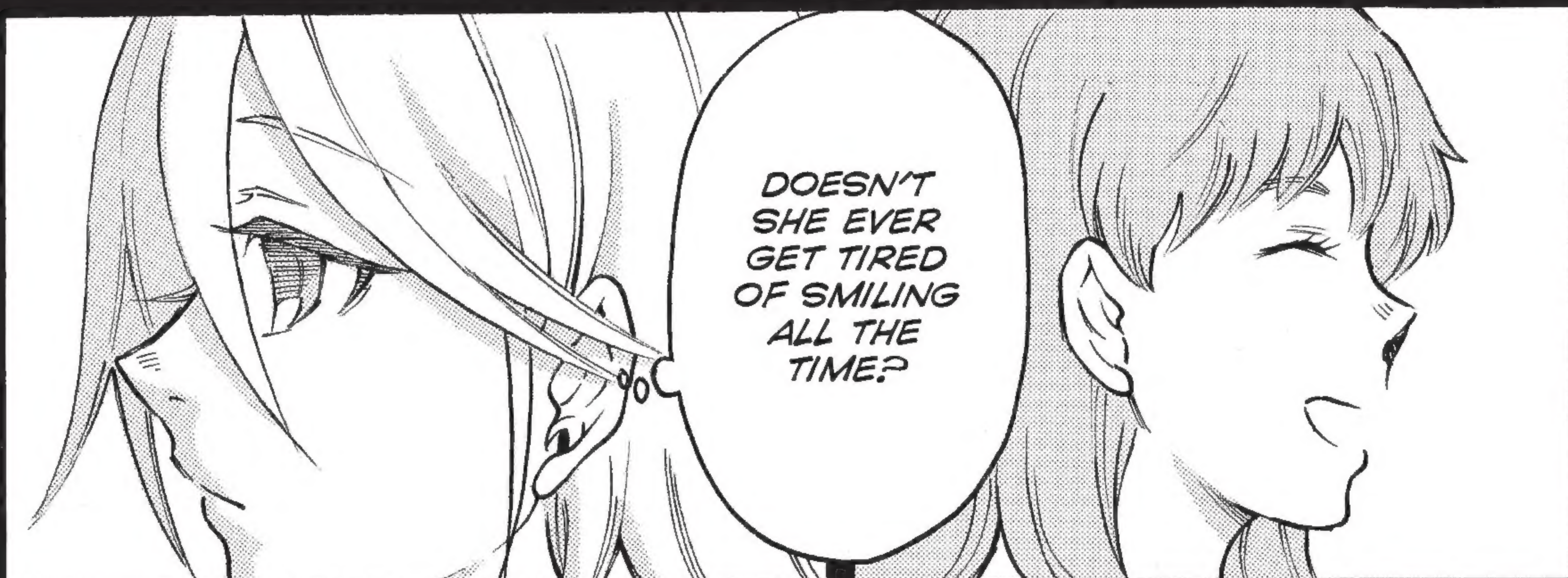
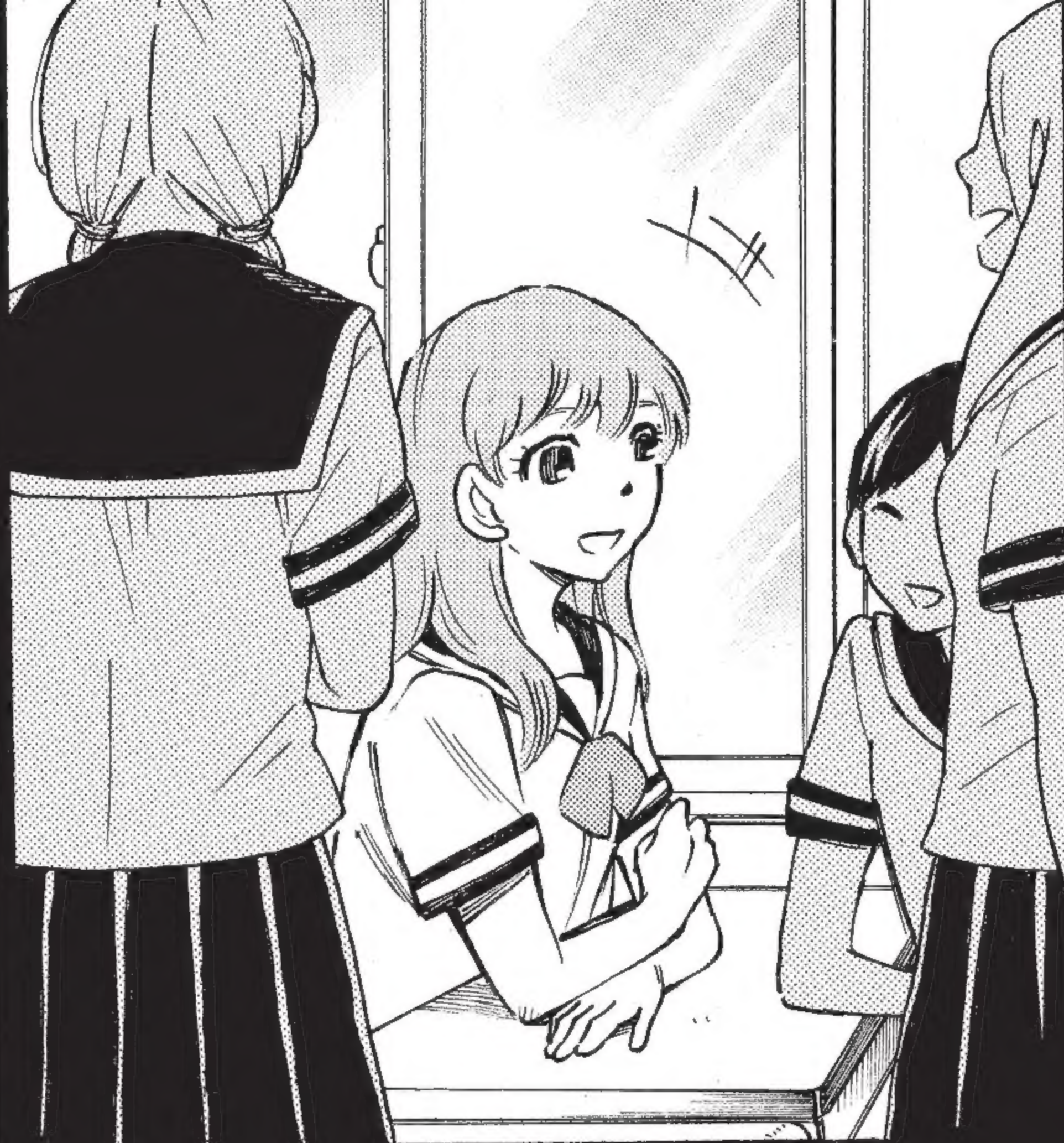
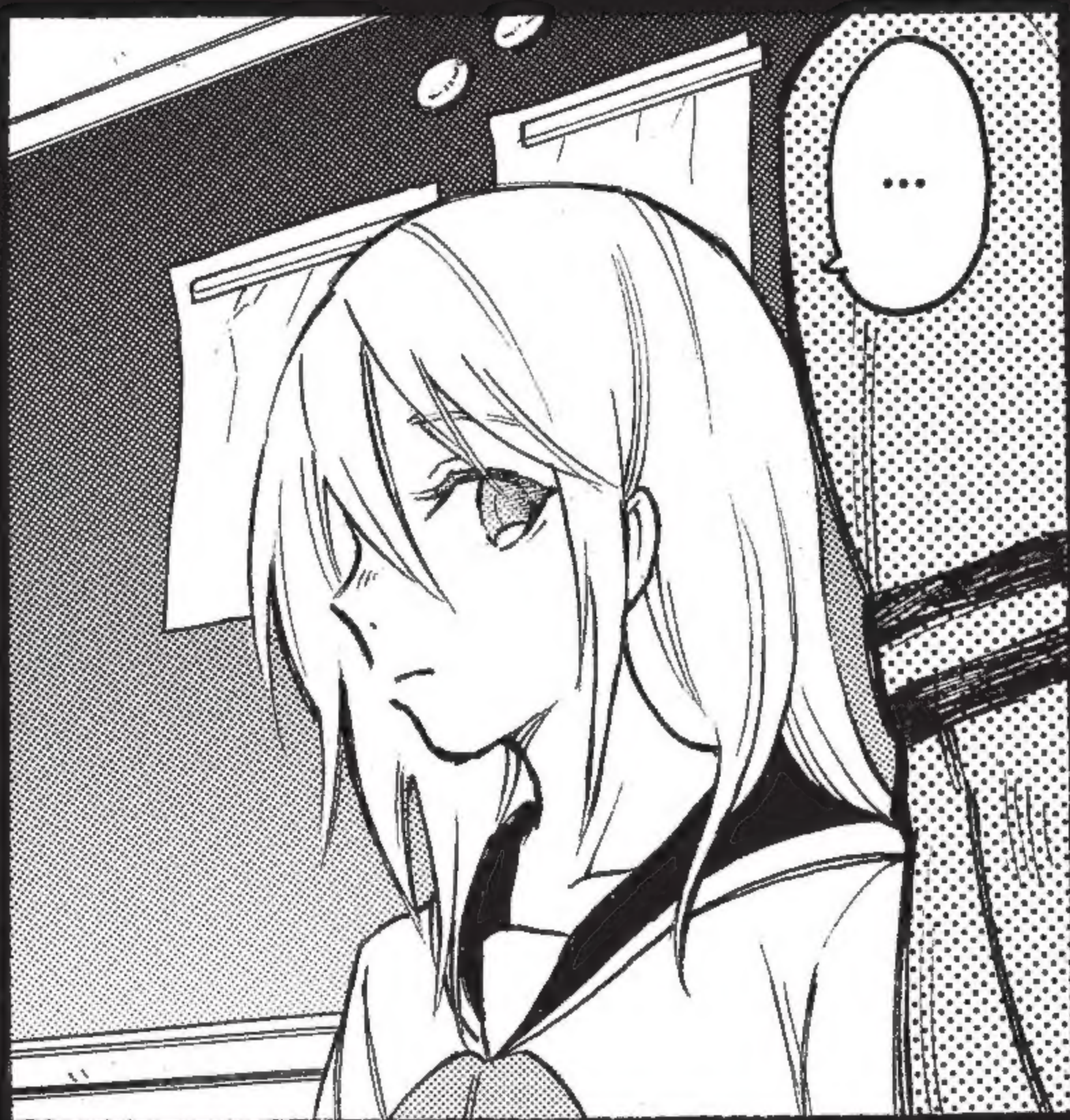


AWESOME, I'M
BEHIND YOU,
BABA. LET ME
BORROW YOUR
NOTES WHEN
YOU HAVE
THEM.

TAKE
YOUR OWN
NOTES.
AND DON'T
CALL ME
BABA.

HA HA
HA, YEAH,
LOOKS
LIKE IT.

HEY,
KIMIKO!
WE'RE
SITTING
CLOSE
AGAIN!





OKAY, IT'S
TIME FOR
YOUR
SHOT!!

I SWEAR
YOU'LL
MAKE
A FULL
RECOVER



DING
DING
DING

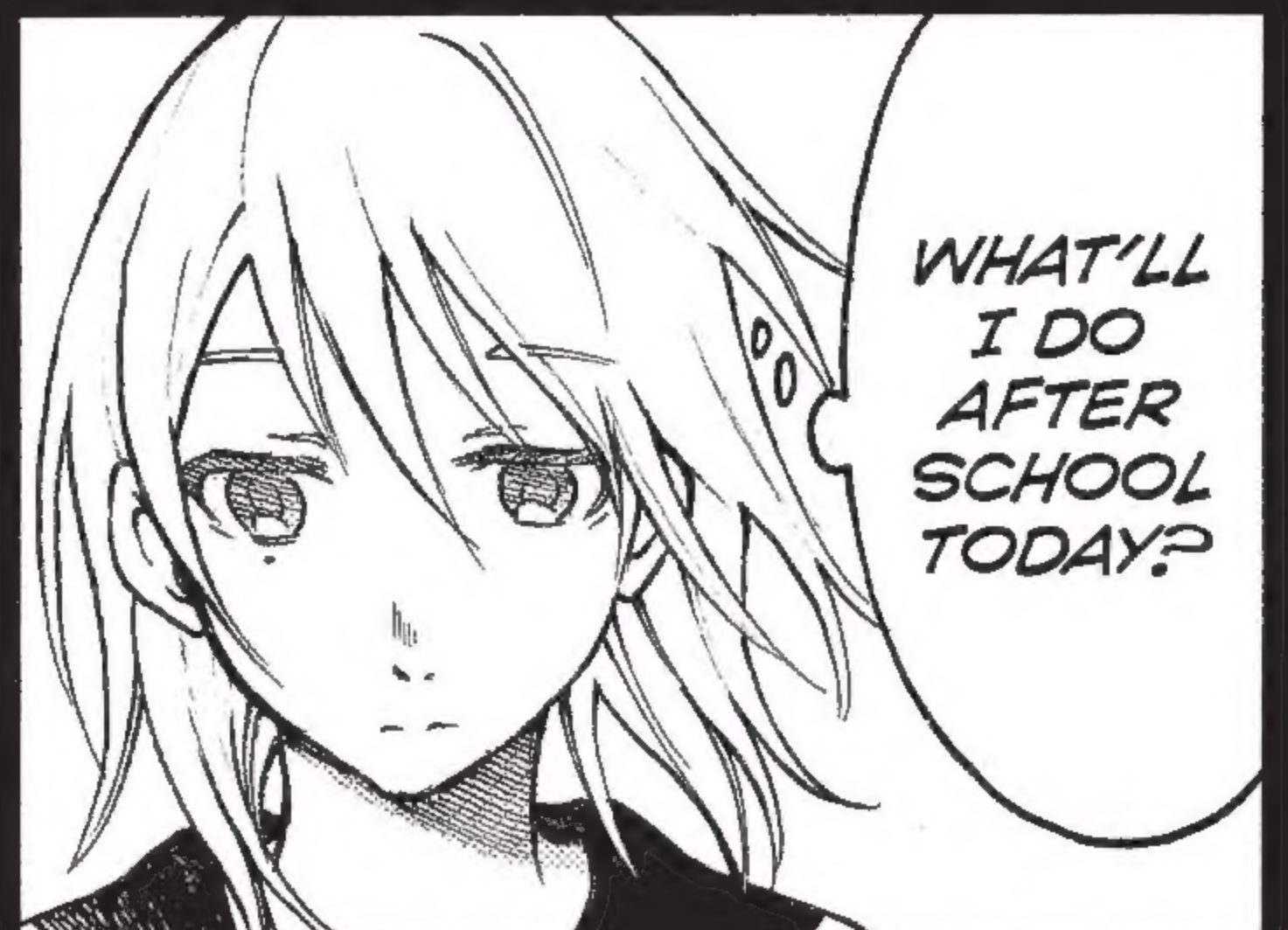
Textbook: Japanese History

Manga: Nurse DE Miracle



AND I'M
TIRED OF
REREADING
NURSE DE
MIRACLE.

BUT I
DON'T HAVE
THE MONEY
TO BUY
ANY NEW
BOOKS.

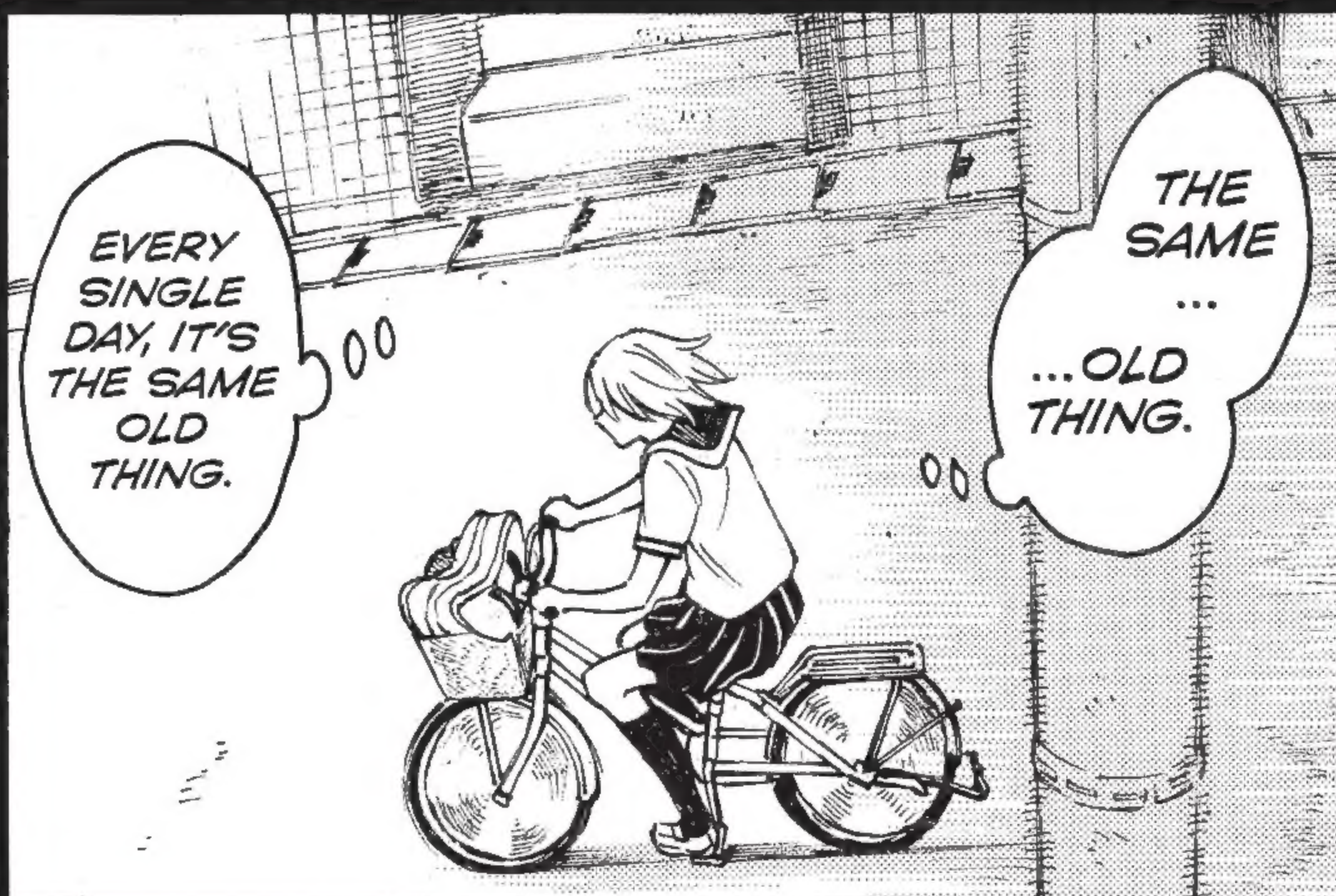


WHAT'LL
I DO
AFTER
SCHOOL
TODAY?



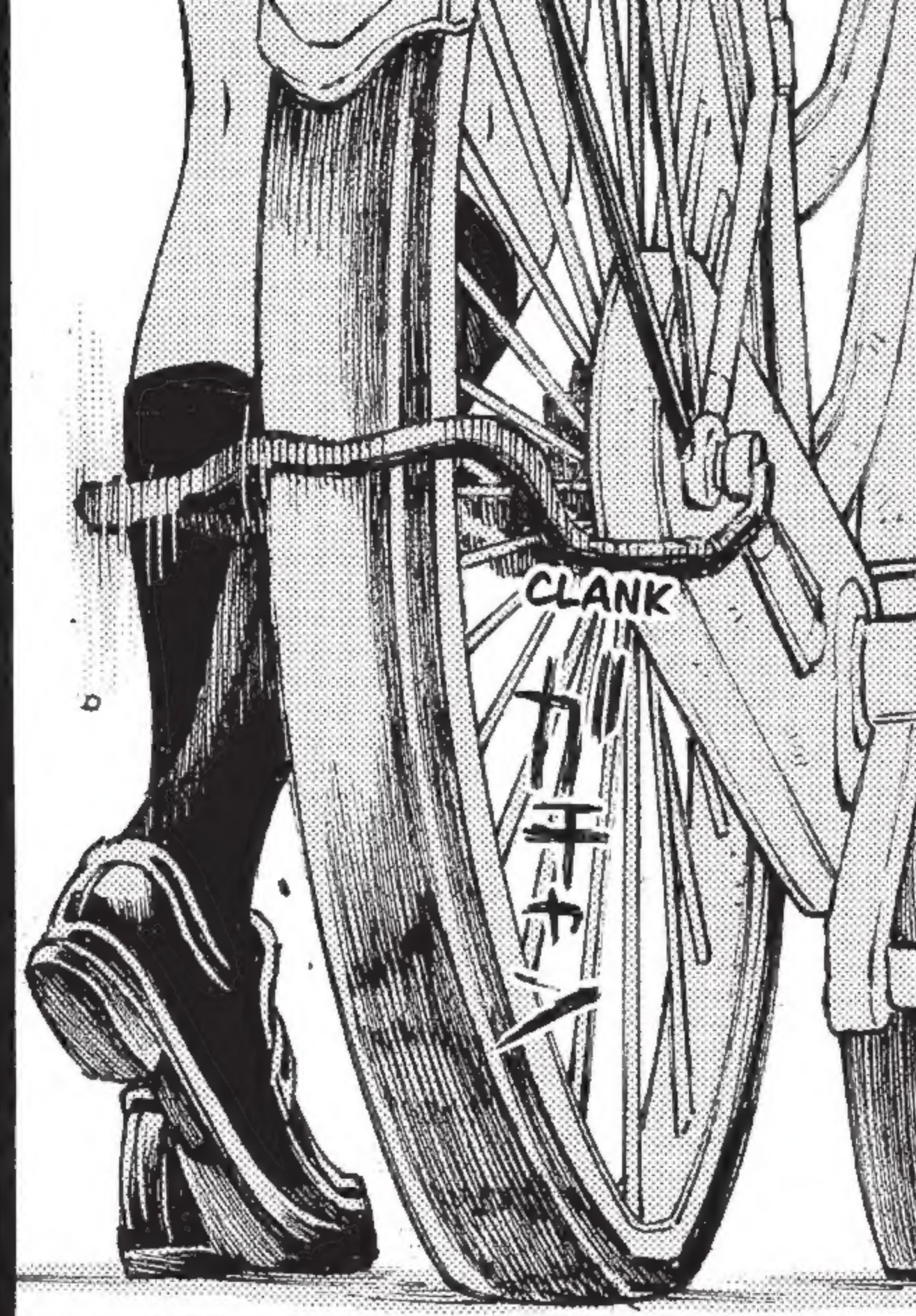
I FIN-
ISHED
ALL MY
VIDEO
GAMES.

THUD

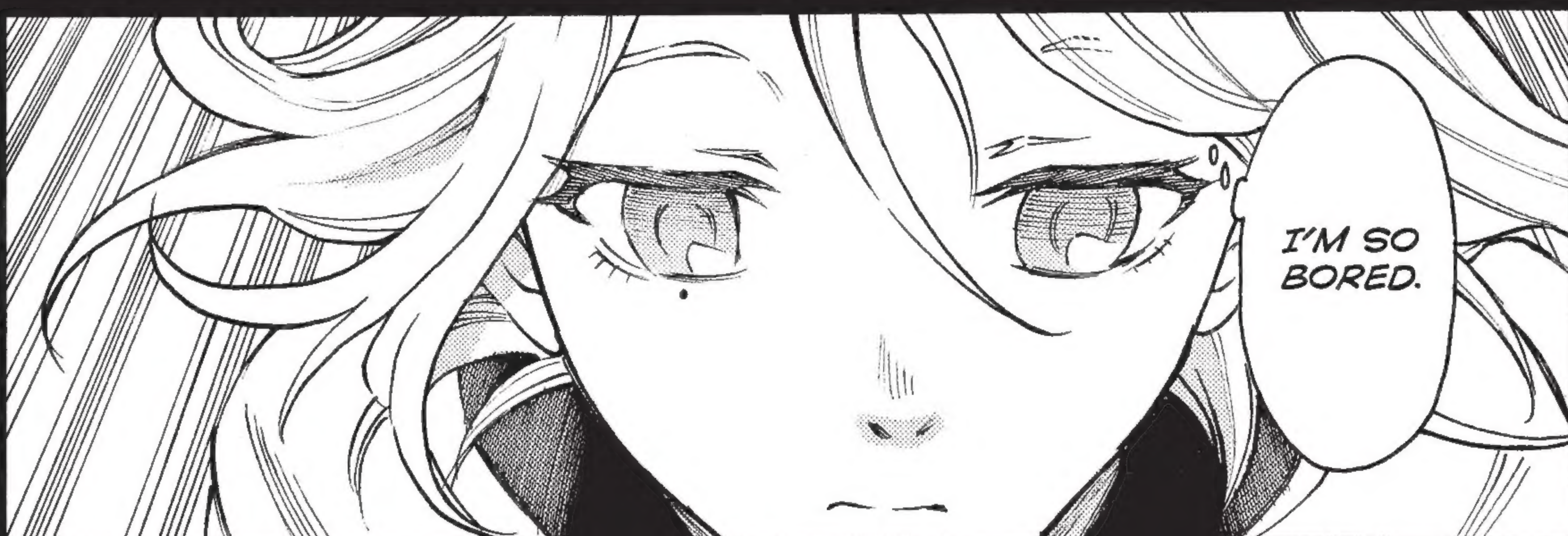


EVERY
SINGLE
DAY, IT'S
THE SAME
OLD
THING.

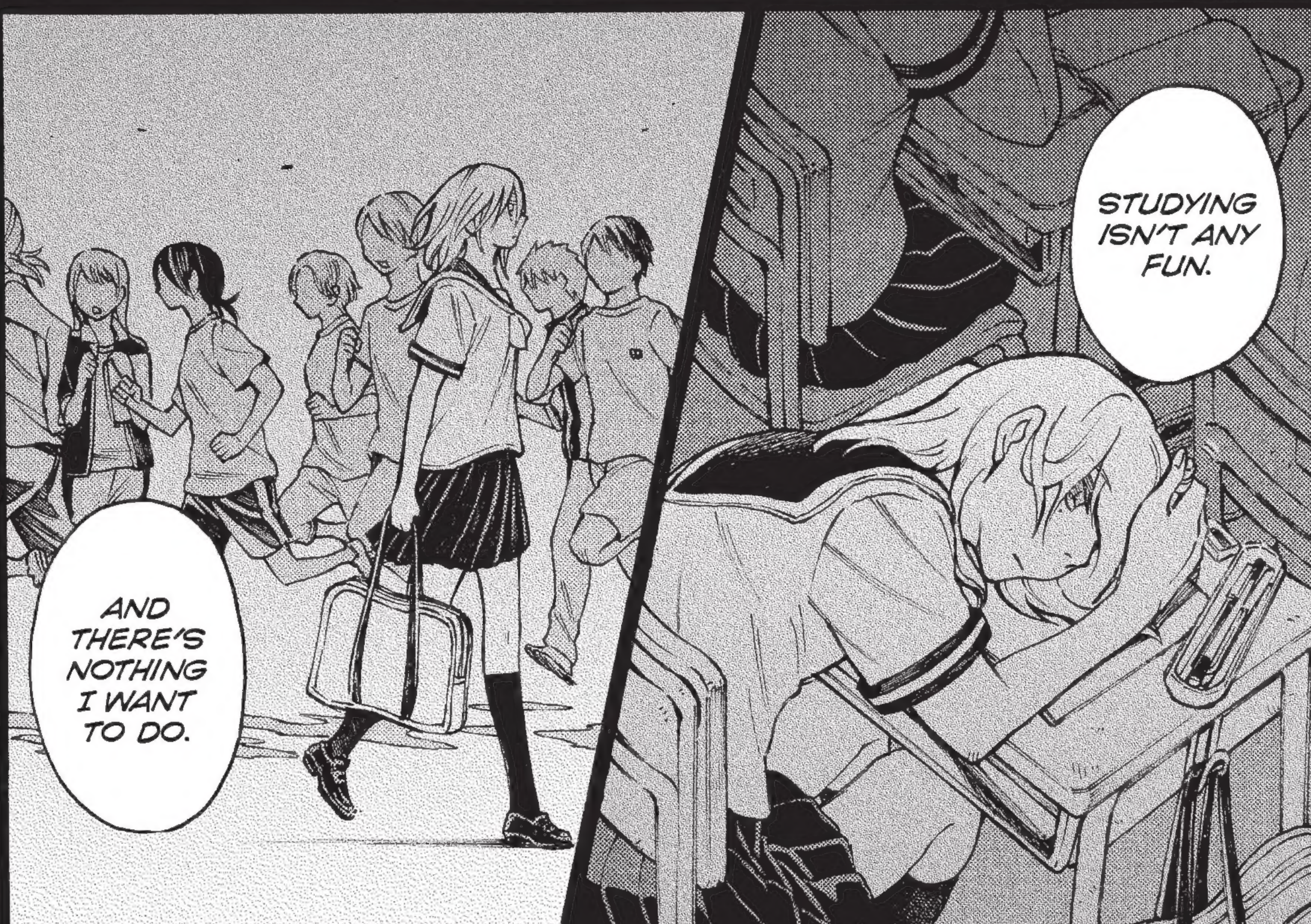
THE
SAME
...
...OLD
THING.



CLANK

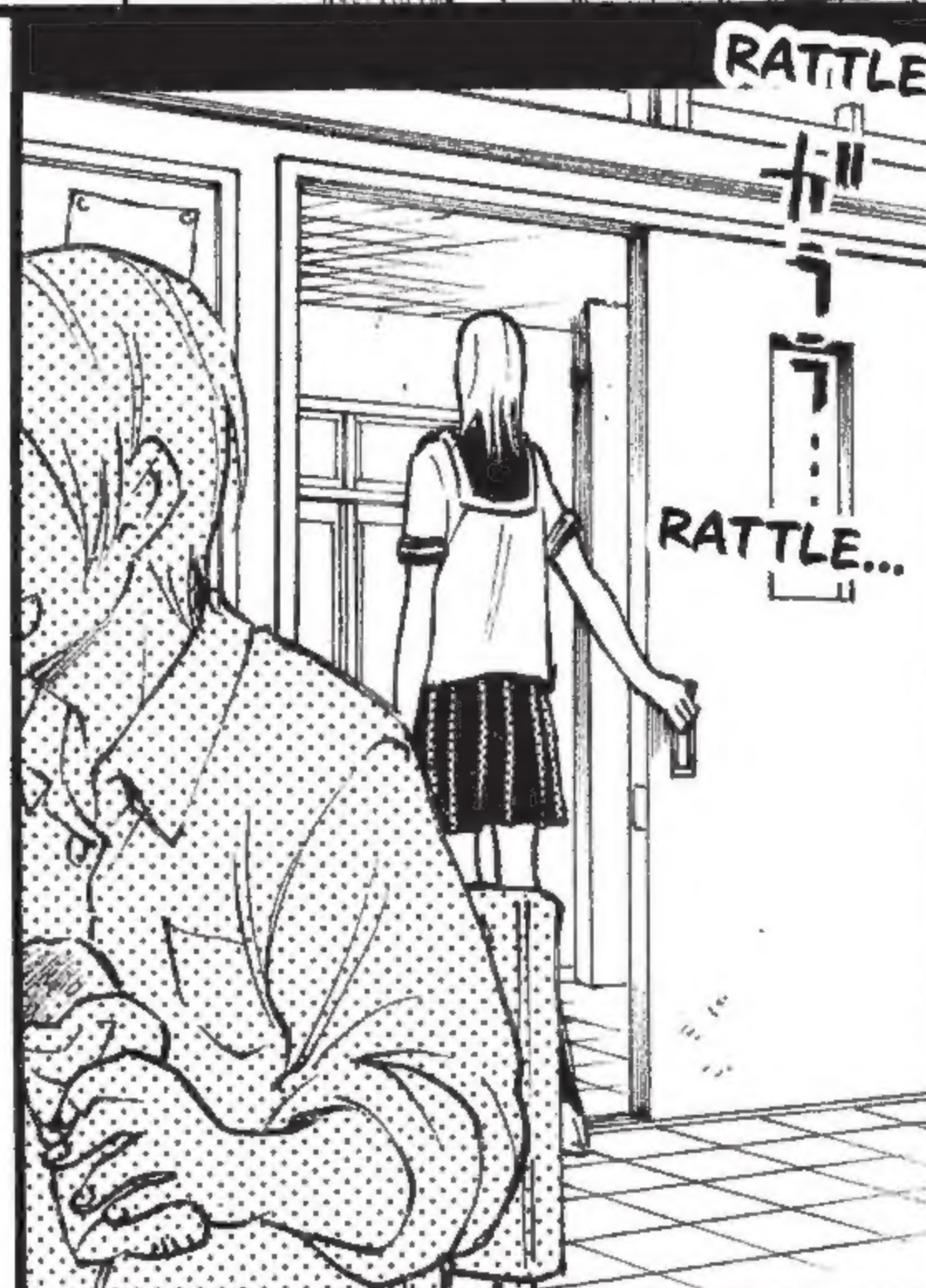
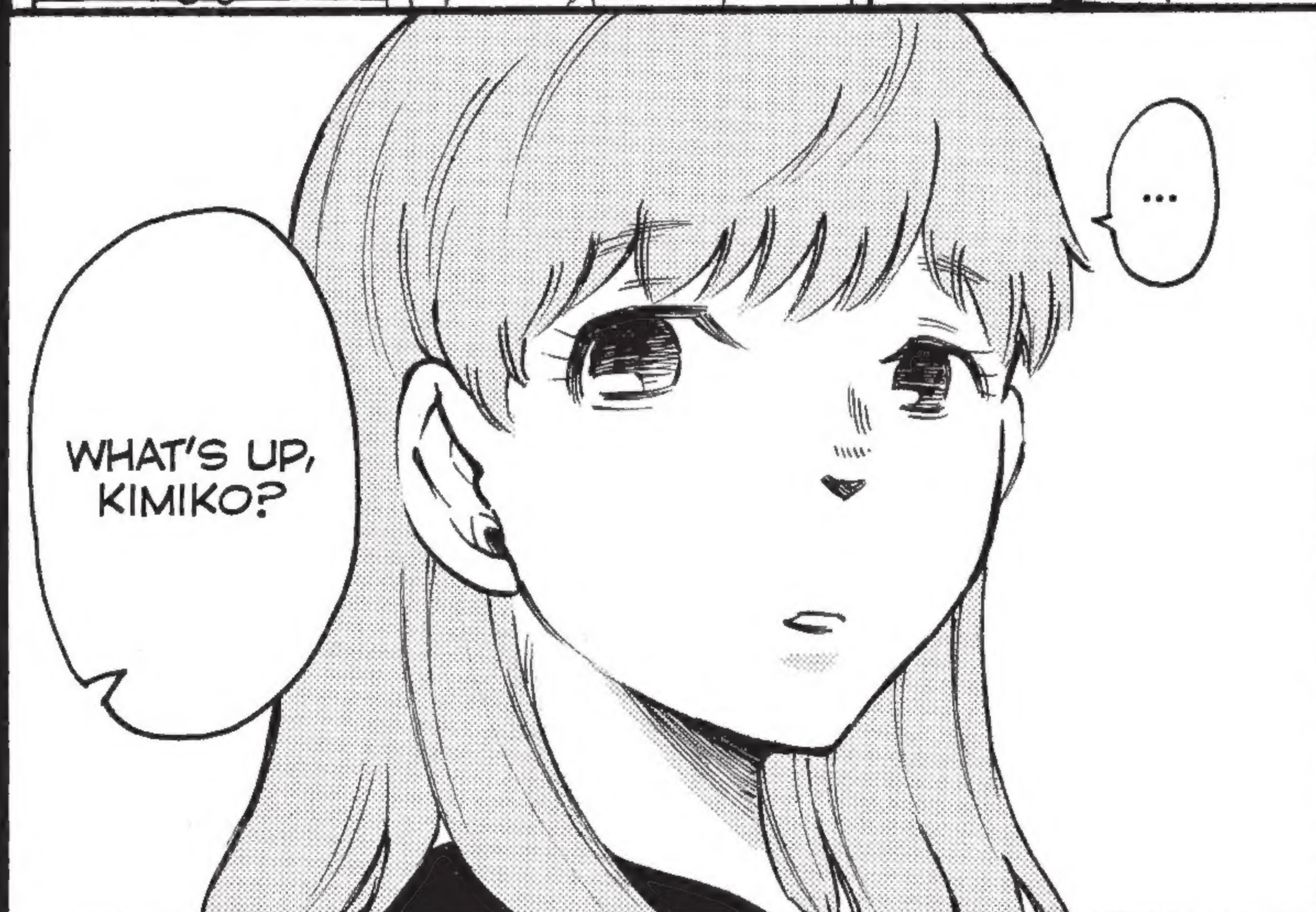
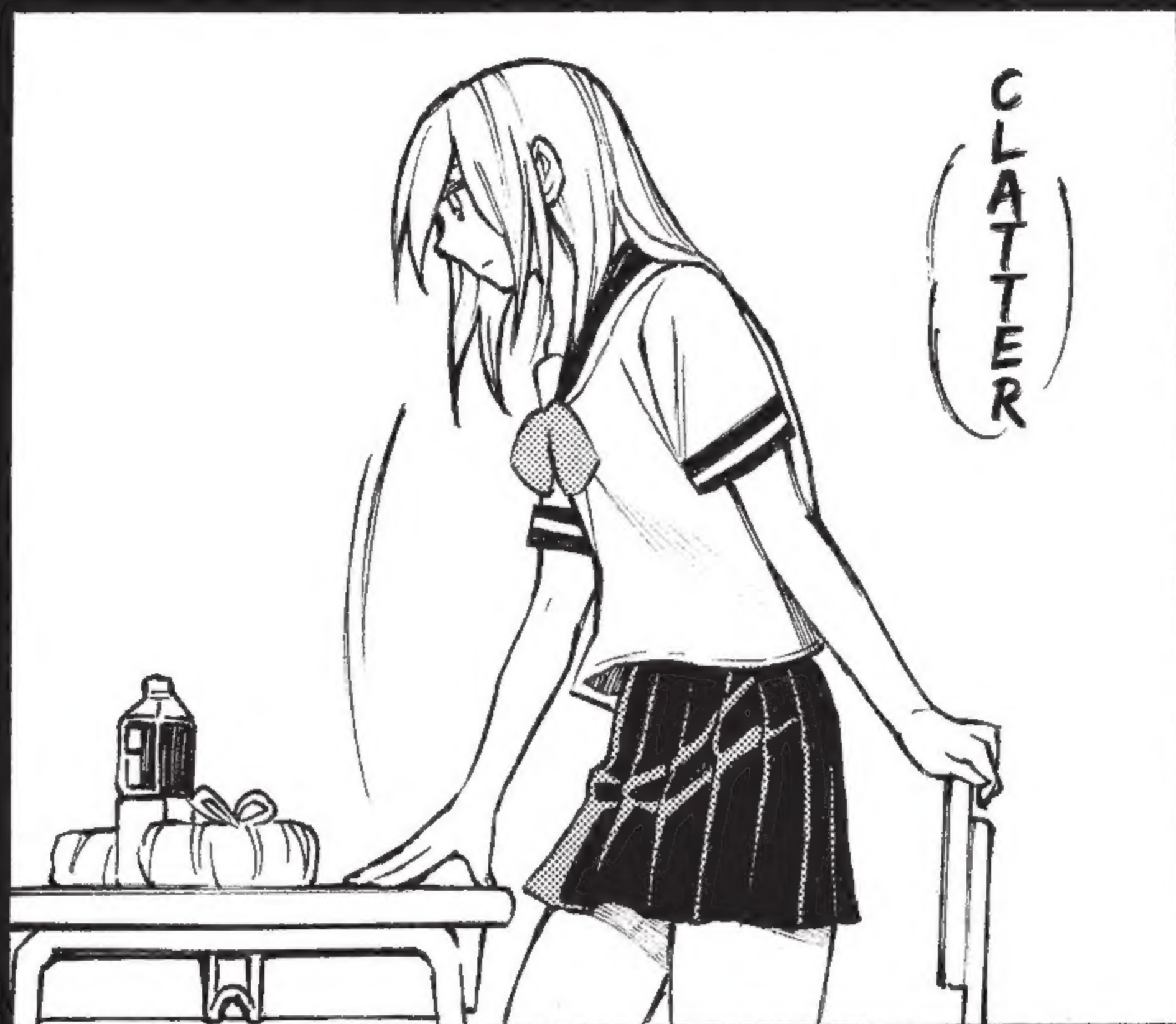


I'M SO
BORED.



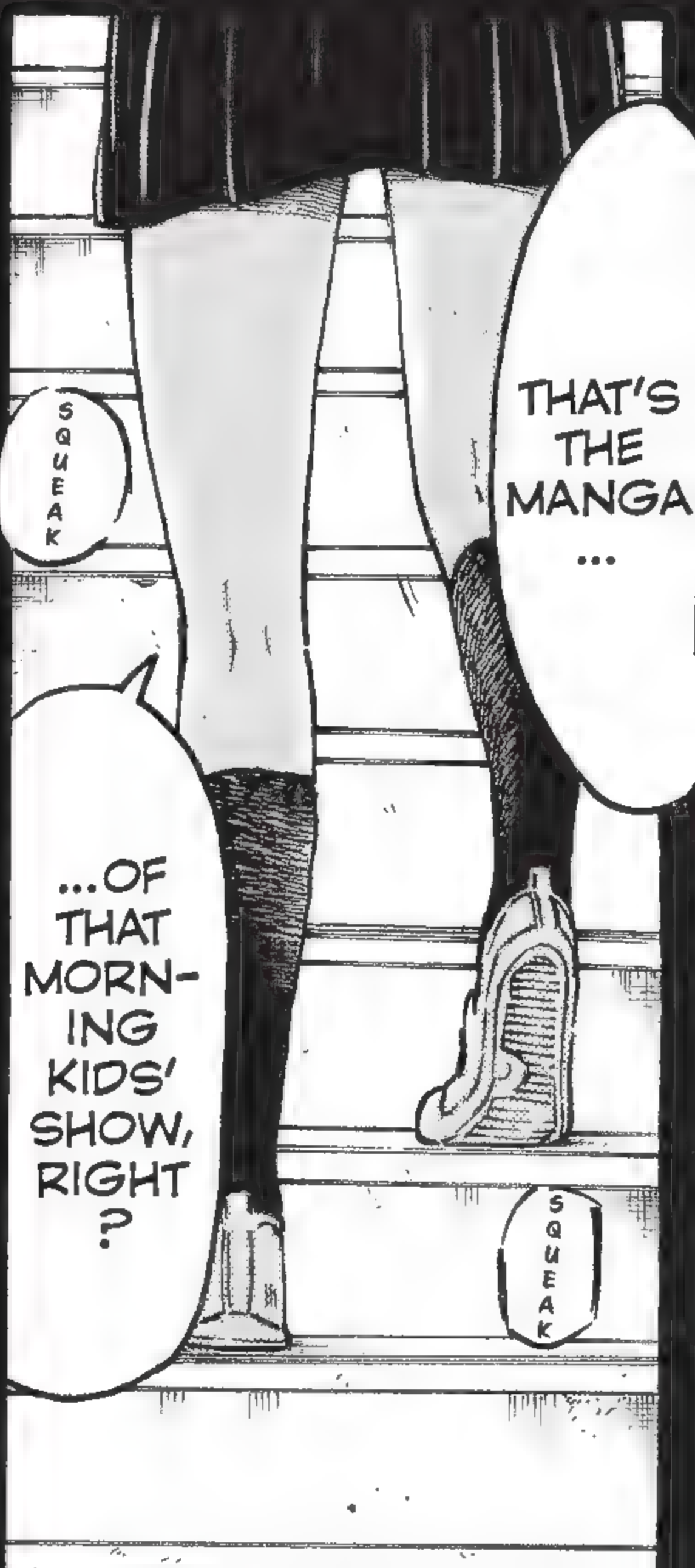
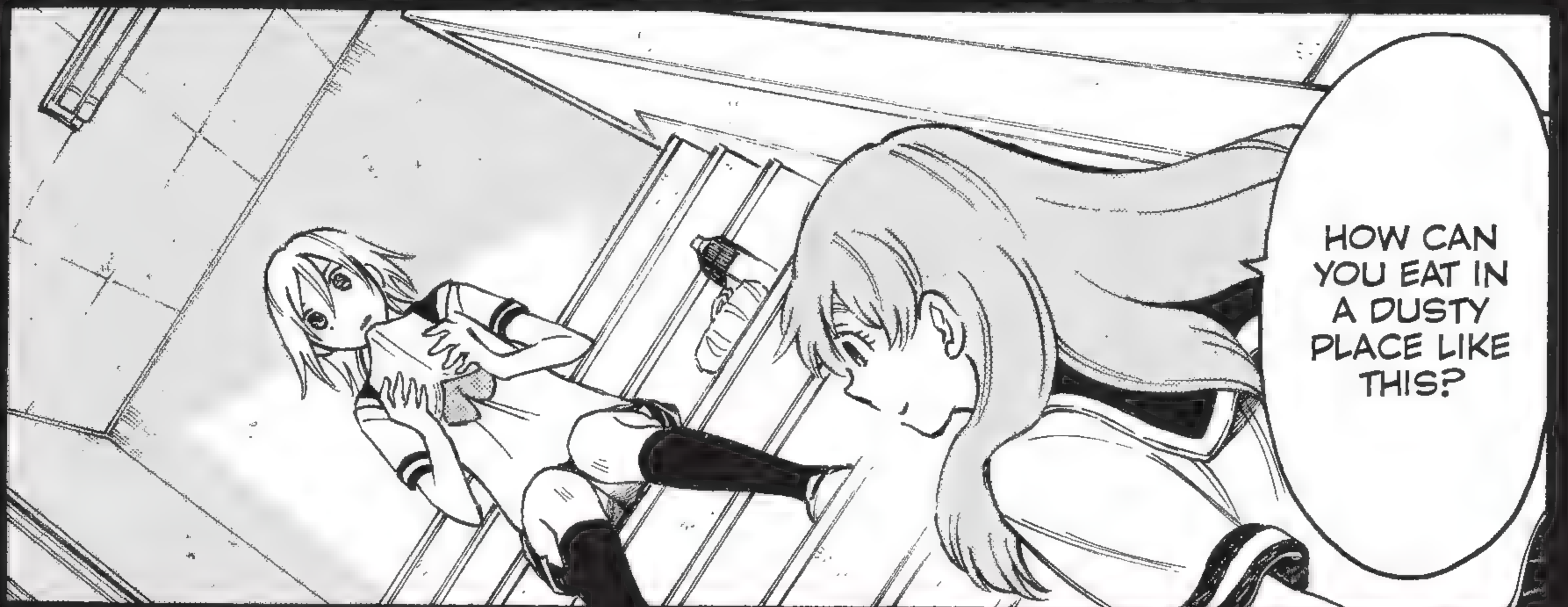
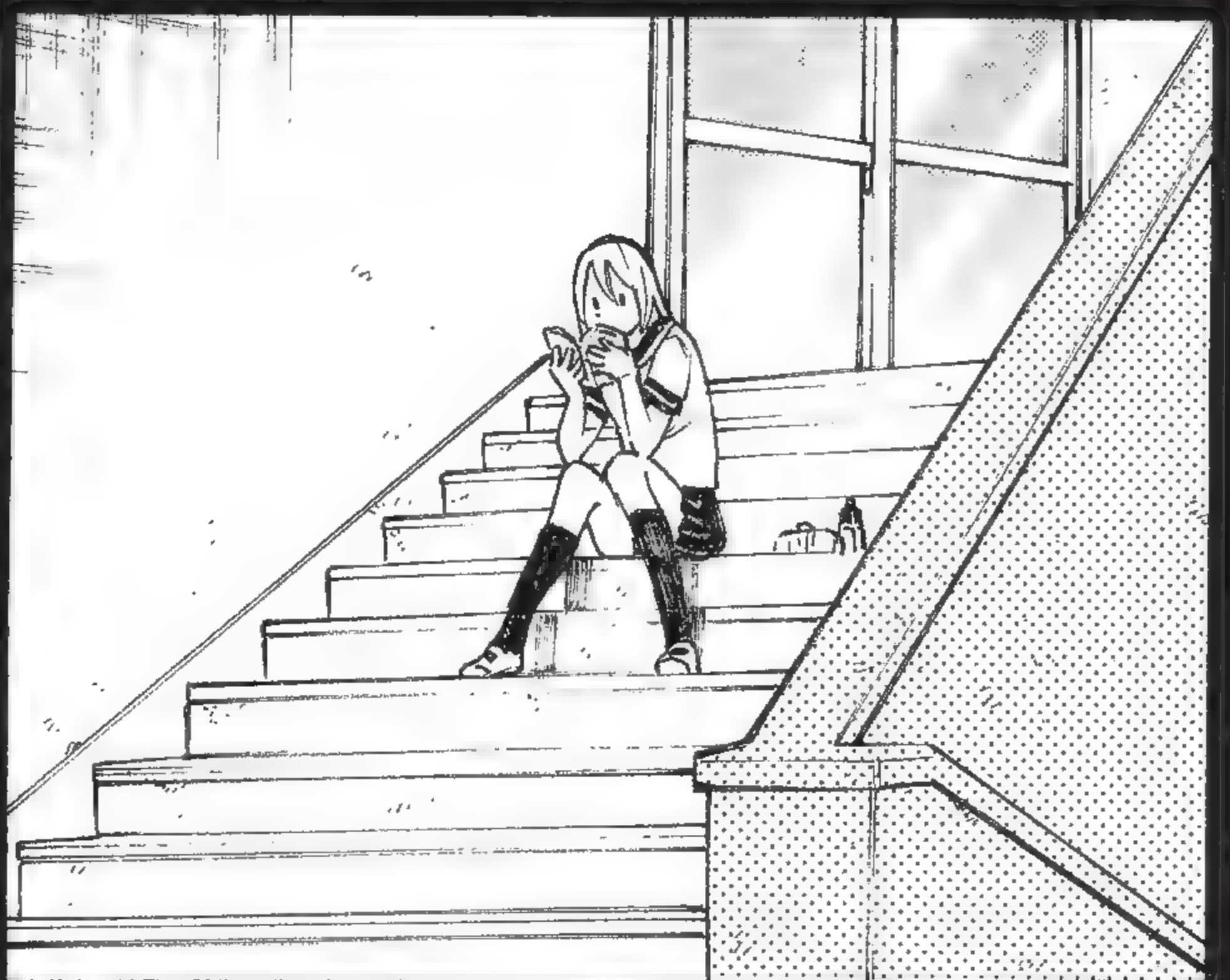
AND
THERE'S
NOTHING
I WANT
TO DO.

STUDYING
ISN'T ANY
FUN.

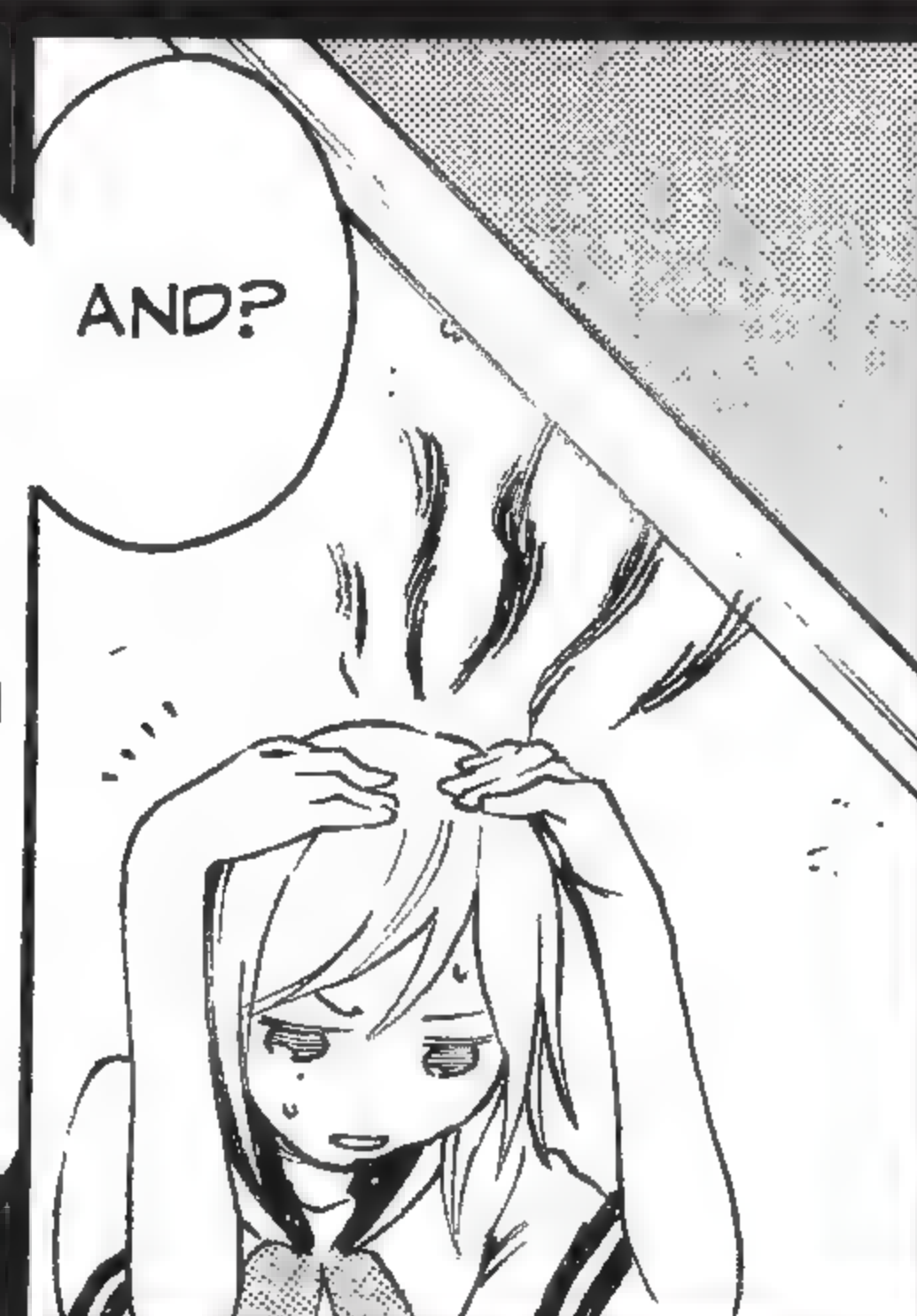




Manga: Nurse DE Miracle







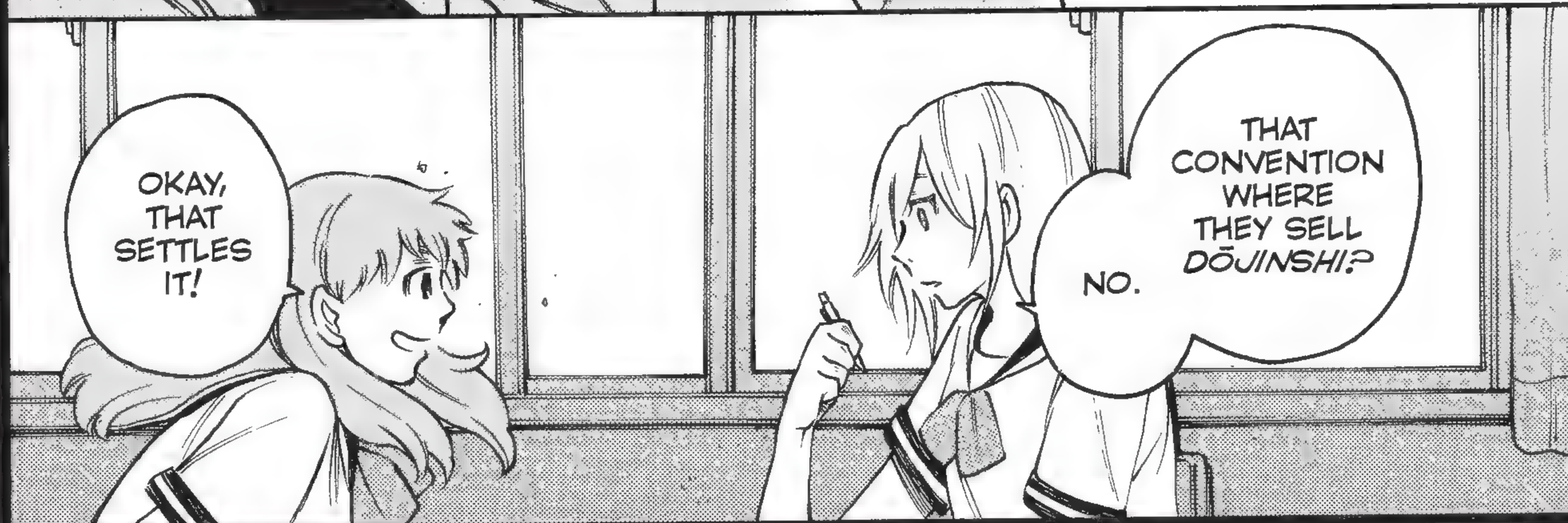
July





HUH?
OH...

NAGISA...
HAVE YOU
EVER BEEN
TO SUMMER
COMIKET?



OKAY,
THAT
SETTLES
IT!

NO.

THAT
CONVENTION
WHERE
THEY SELL
DŌJINSHI?

Summer Comiket: Short for Summer Comic Market, a large *dōjinshi* fair held in August.



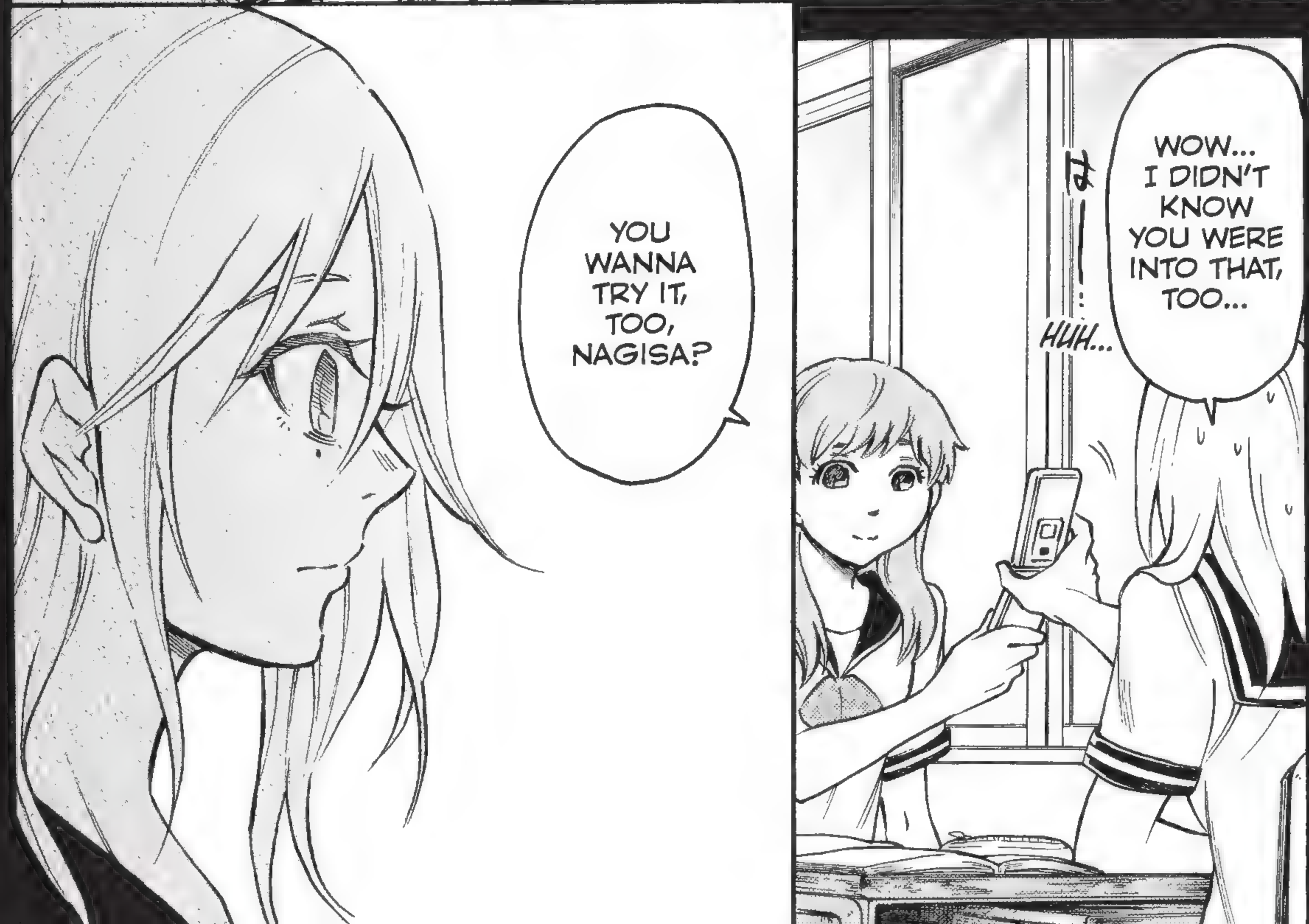
WHAAAT
?



TOGETH-
ER?

DO YOU
WANT TO
GO?







AWWWW.
BUT
COME
ON.

AND
SHOULD
YOU BE
TELLING ME
THAT?



I'M
GETTING A
2 IN HOME
ECONOMICS
AND ART!

NO, NO,
NO,
THERE'S
NO WAY!



IT'S A
LOT
EASIER
TO MO-
TIVATE
YOUR-
SELF!

AND
IF YOU
HAVE
SOME-
THING
TO
LOOK
FOR-
WARD
TO,



IF YOU TRY
IT, YOU
MIGHT
ACTUALLY
LIKE IT.

Book: Math II



I'M SO
LOOKING
FOR-
WARD
TO
THIS!

I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT
THIS
"RE-
WARD"...

IT'S ONLY
A REWARD
FOR YOU.

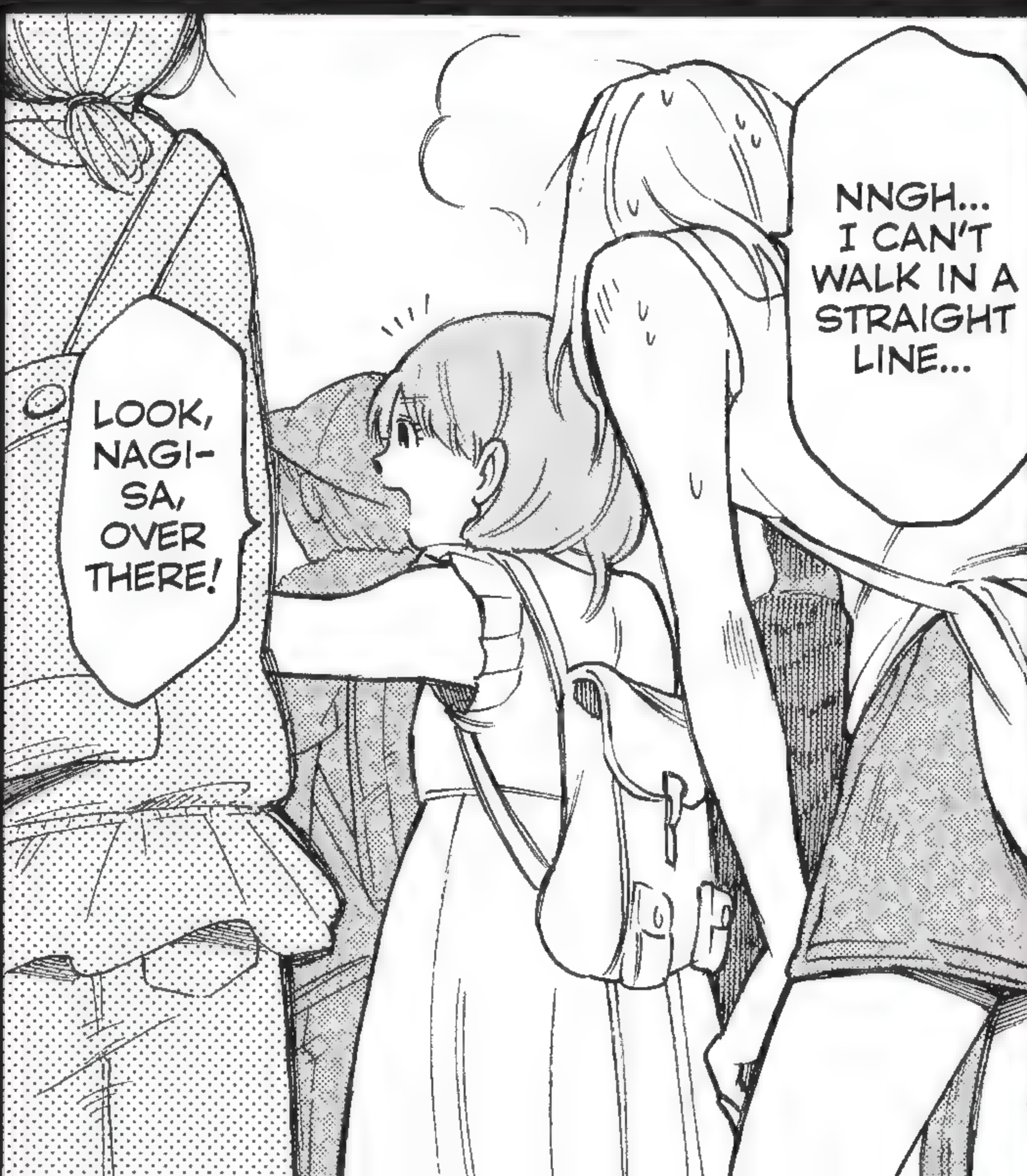
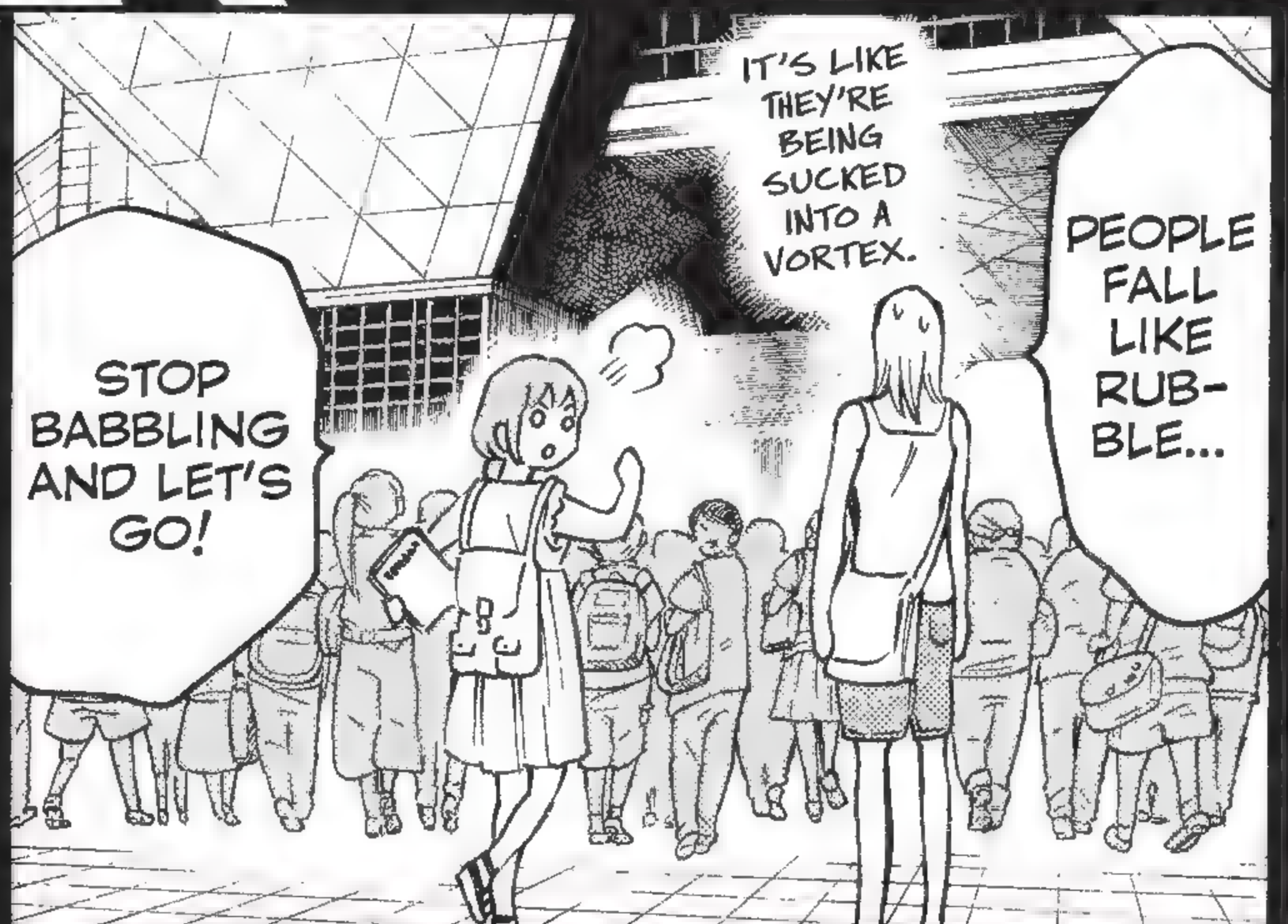
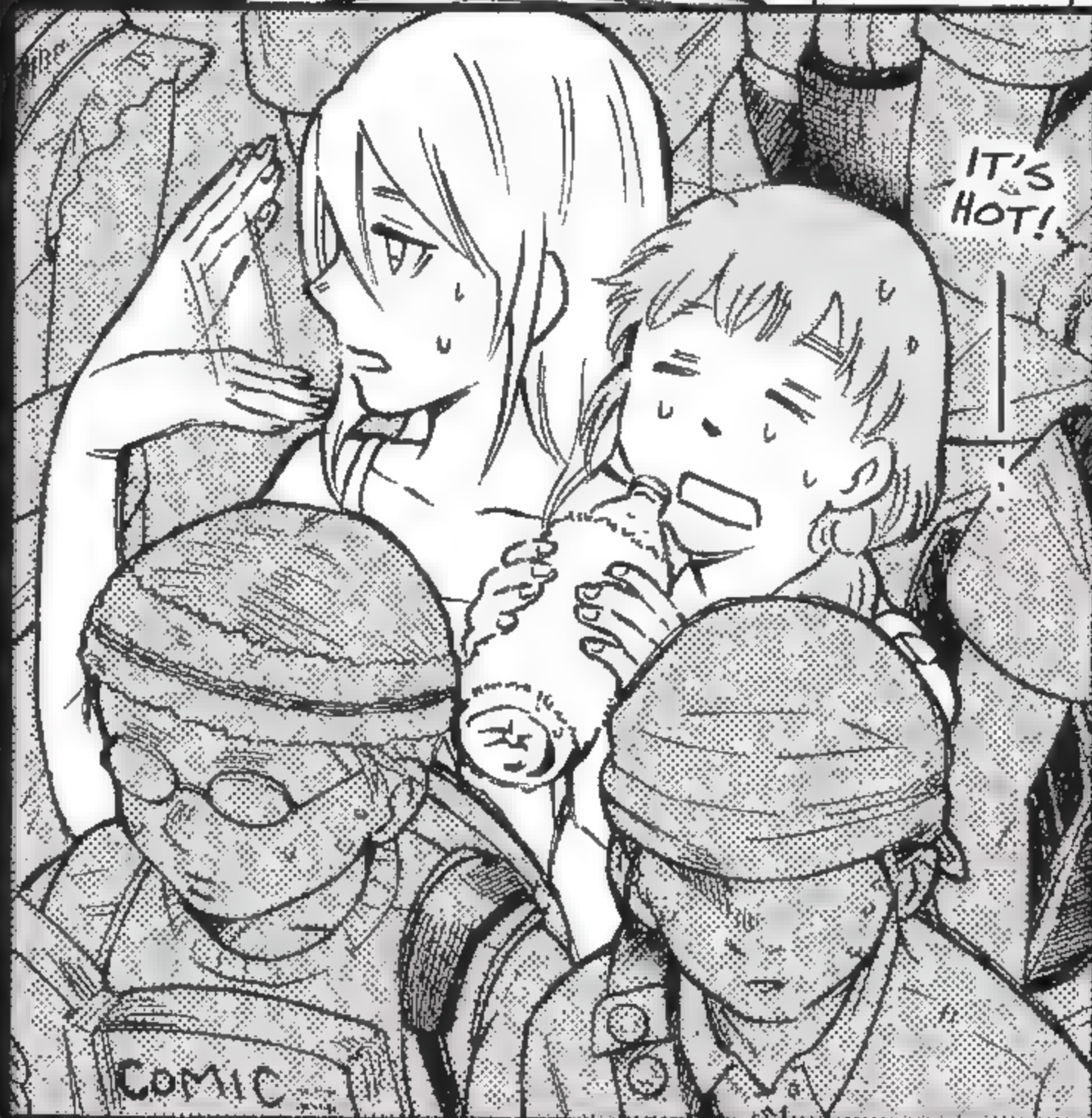


SIGH
...

The day of Summer Comiket

WHOA!

WE'RE
HERE!





NOT SO
FAST,
KIMIKO!

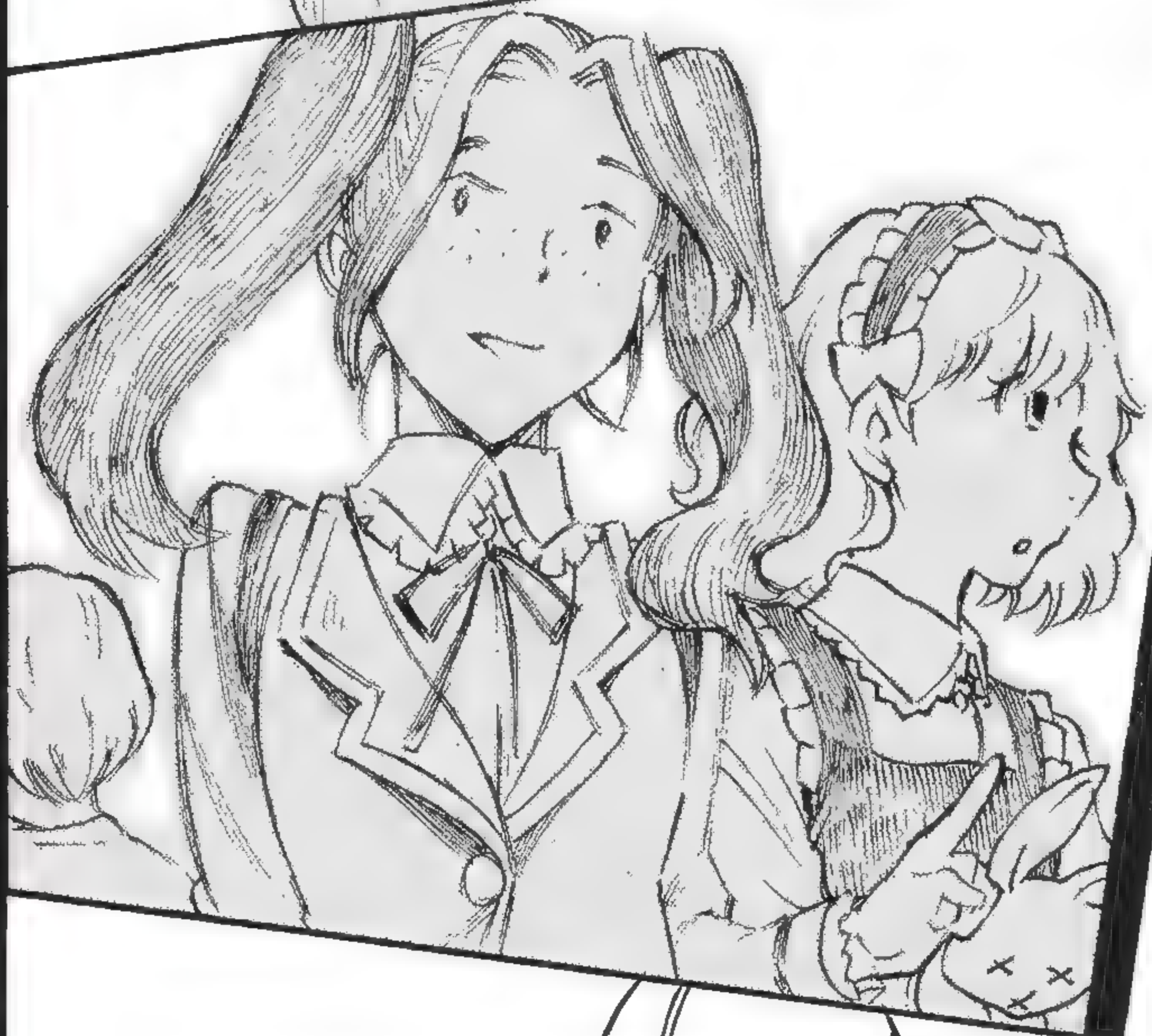
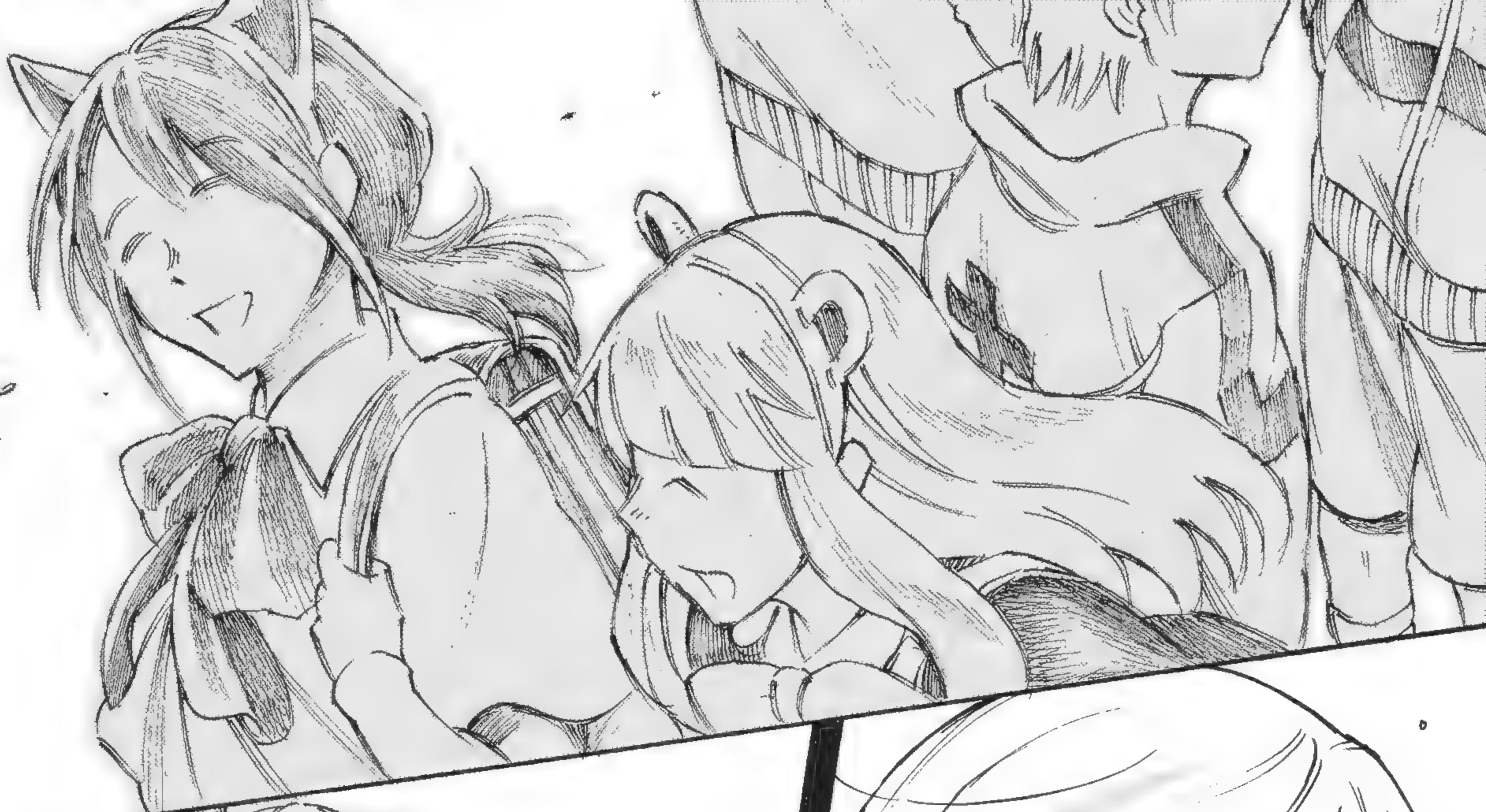
WHAT
?!



THERE'S
A BUNCH
OF COS-
PLAYERS
OVER
THERE!



WAIT
...







NAGISA
?



NAGI-
SA!

LET'S GO
ASK IF WE
CAN TAKE
SOME
PIC...

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK? THE
PICTURE ON
MY PHONE
REALLY
DIDN'T DO
IT JUSTICE,
RIGHT?



DO
YOU
THINK
...



HM?

KIMI-
KO...



...I COULD
COSPLAY,
TOO?

SINCE
IT GOT
BROUGHT
UP...

IT'S BEEN
A SHORT 10
YEARS SINCE
I MOVED TO
THE CAPITAL.

I HOPE I
CAN ENJOY
ANOTHER
10 YEARS
HERE.

FOR THE BONUSES
IN THIS VOLUME, I
THOUGHT I'D TALK
ABOUT MY HOME
PREFECTURE OF
MIYAGI... (ONLY THE
FRONT OF THE TRAIN
STATION SHOWED
UP IN THE MANGA,
SO I HAVEN'T
GOTTEN IT OUT OF
MY SYSTEM YET.)

NOW WE'RE AT
VOLUME FIVE.
THANK YOU
FOR PICKING
UP ANOTHER
INSTALLMENT.



I THINK WE SHOULD GO WITH SOMETHING ...

...WE CAN PUT TOGETHER PRETTY EASILY, LIKE A SCHOOL UNIFORM OR A MAID OUTFIT!

YOU KNOW, BECAUSE IT'S OUR FIRST TIME!

TOKYU HANDS

SIMPLE!! COSTUME SET
MAID UNIFORM

SIMPLE!! COSTUME SET
SAILOR SUIT

n.35
Complex age

OH, KIMIKO. I HAVE TO BUY A CAMERA. AND POCKET HEATERS.

WE COULD COLOR OUR HAIR WITH SPRAY, BUT...

MAYBE WE SHOULD GO WITH CHARACTERS WITH SIMILAR HAIR TO OURS, LIKE THE SAME COLOR OR LENGTH.

Sign: Drugstore Matsumoto Kiyoshi

I CAN'T WAIT FOR OUR COSPLAY DEBUT, CAN YOU, NAGISA?!

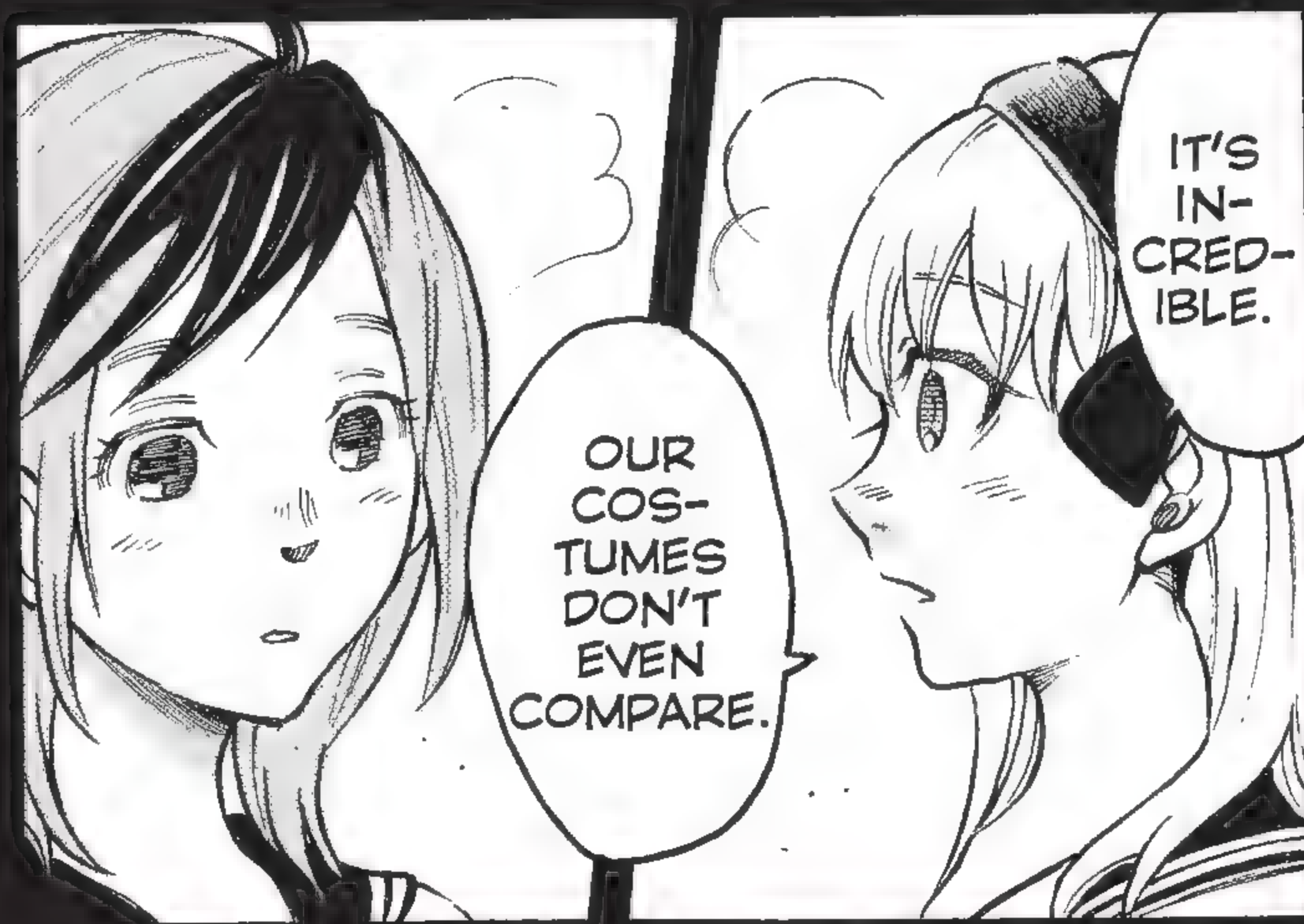
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR WINTER BREAK.

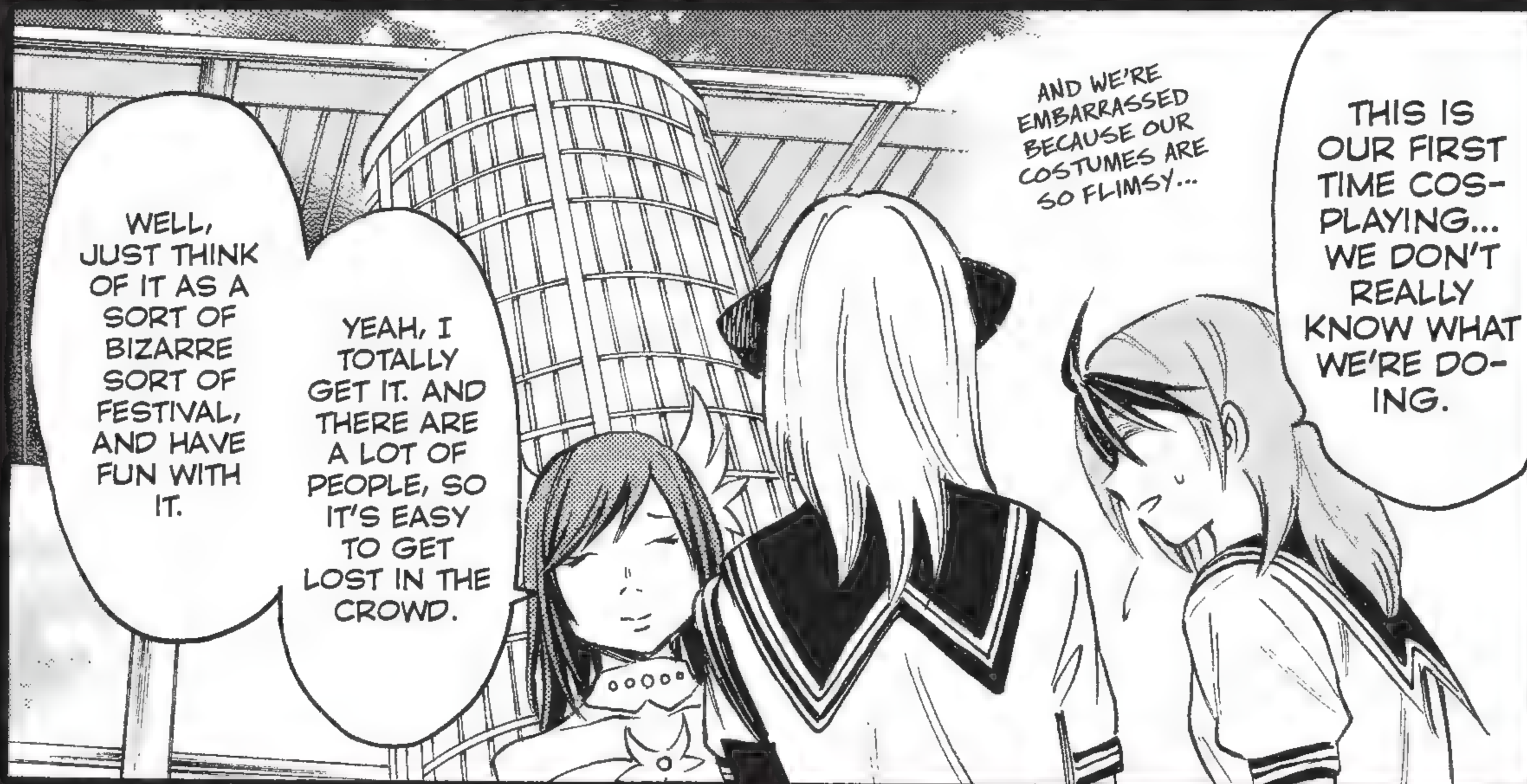
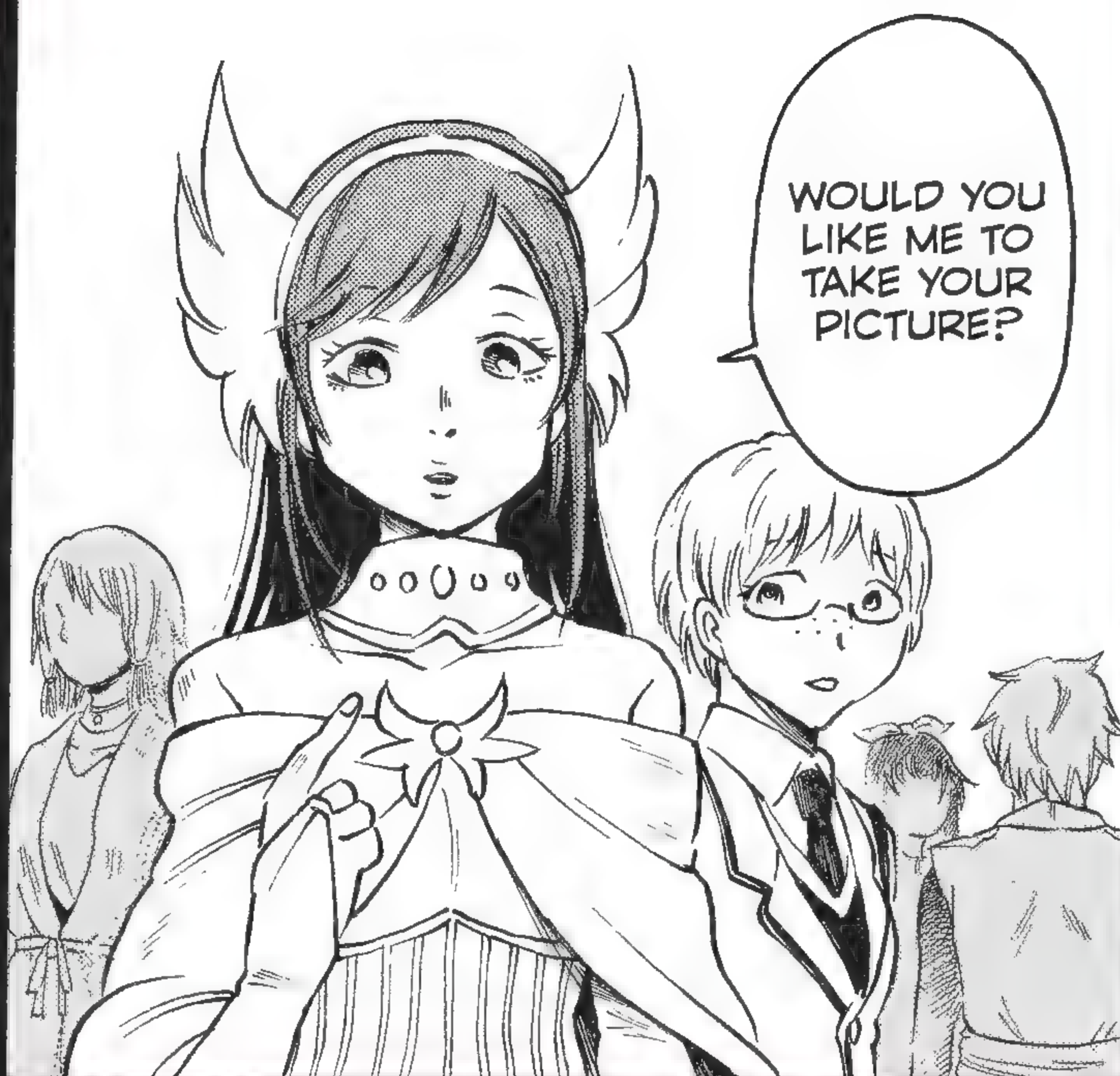
NO!

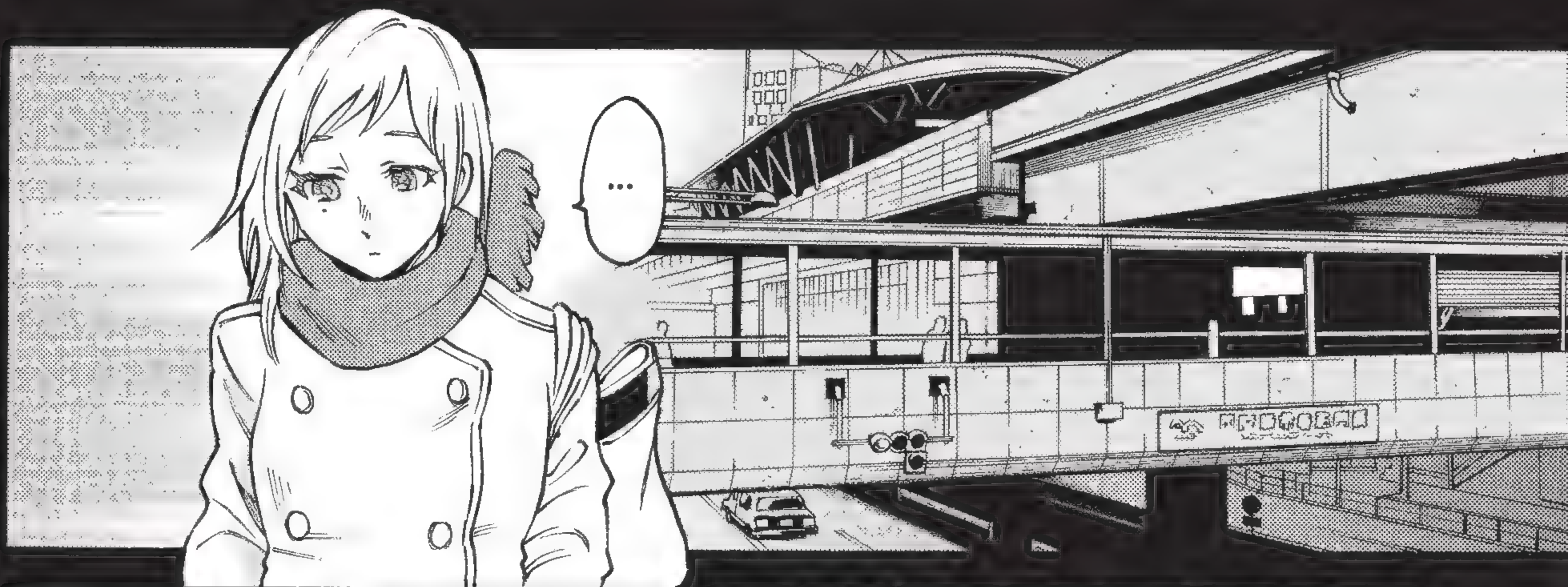
THIS SHOULD DO IT.

RUSTLE
RUSTLE

FUN AND CAS
1600
QuickShop
400 ASA
State Reusable









THEY
LOOKED
LIKE THEY
WERE
HAVING
SO MUCH
FUN.

BACK AT
SUMMER
COMIKET, AND
HERE...IT WAS
LIKE...ALL THE
COSPLAYERS
SPARKLED.

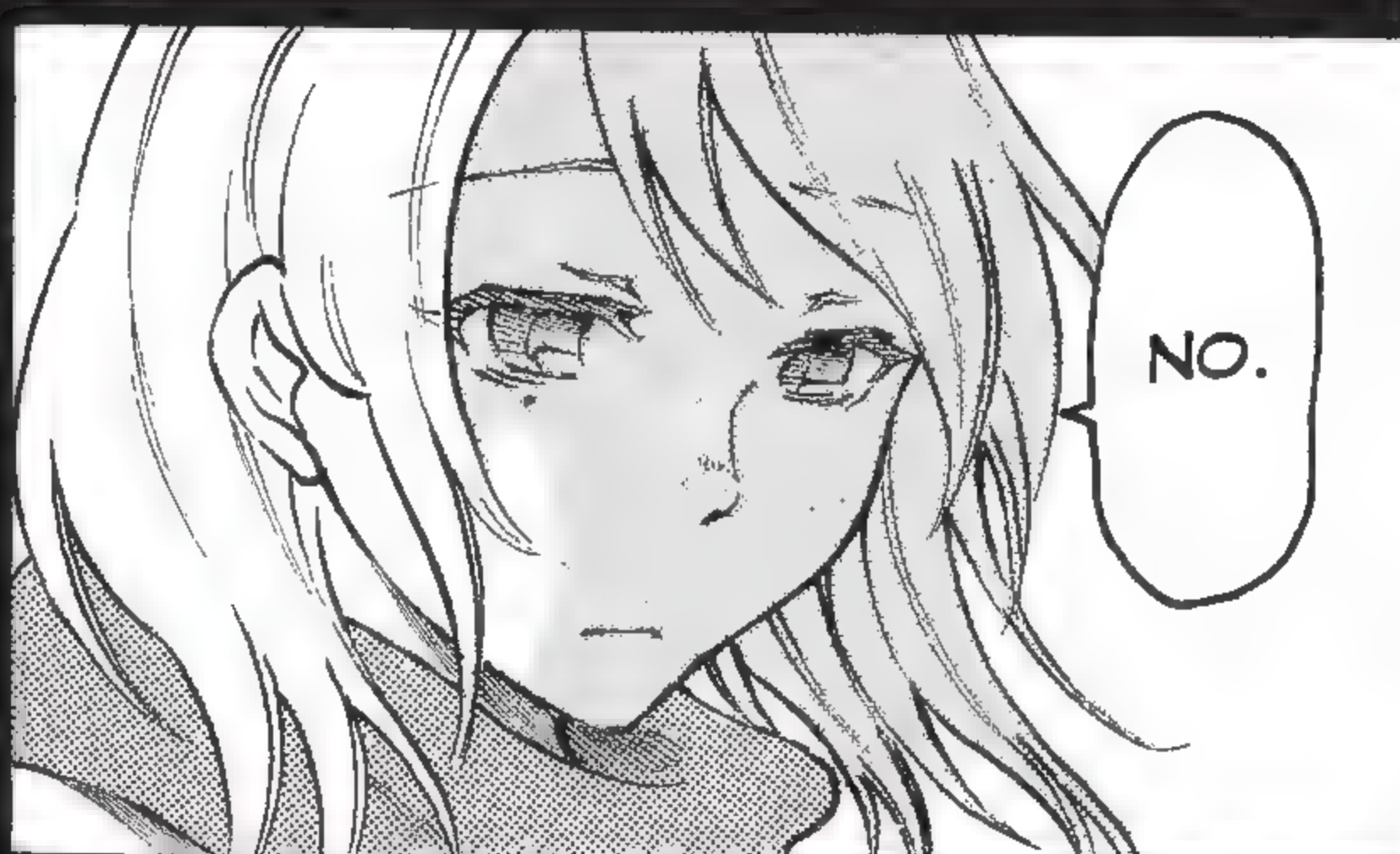


SO...



BUT I
WAS
WRONG.

I THOUGHT
IF I
DRESSED UP
LIKE THEM, I
COULD FEEL
THE SAME
WAY.



NO.



OH.



...YOU
DIDN'T
REALLY
ENJOY
IT?



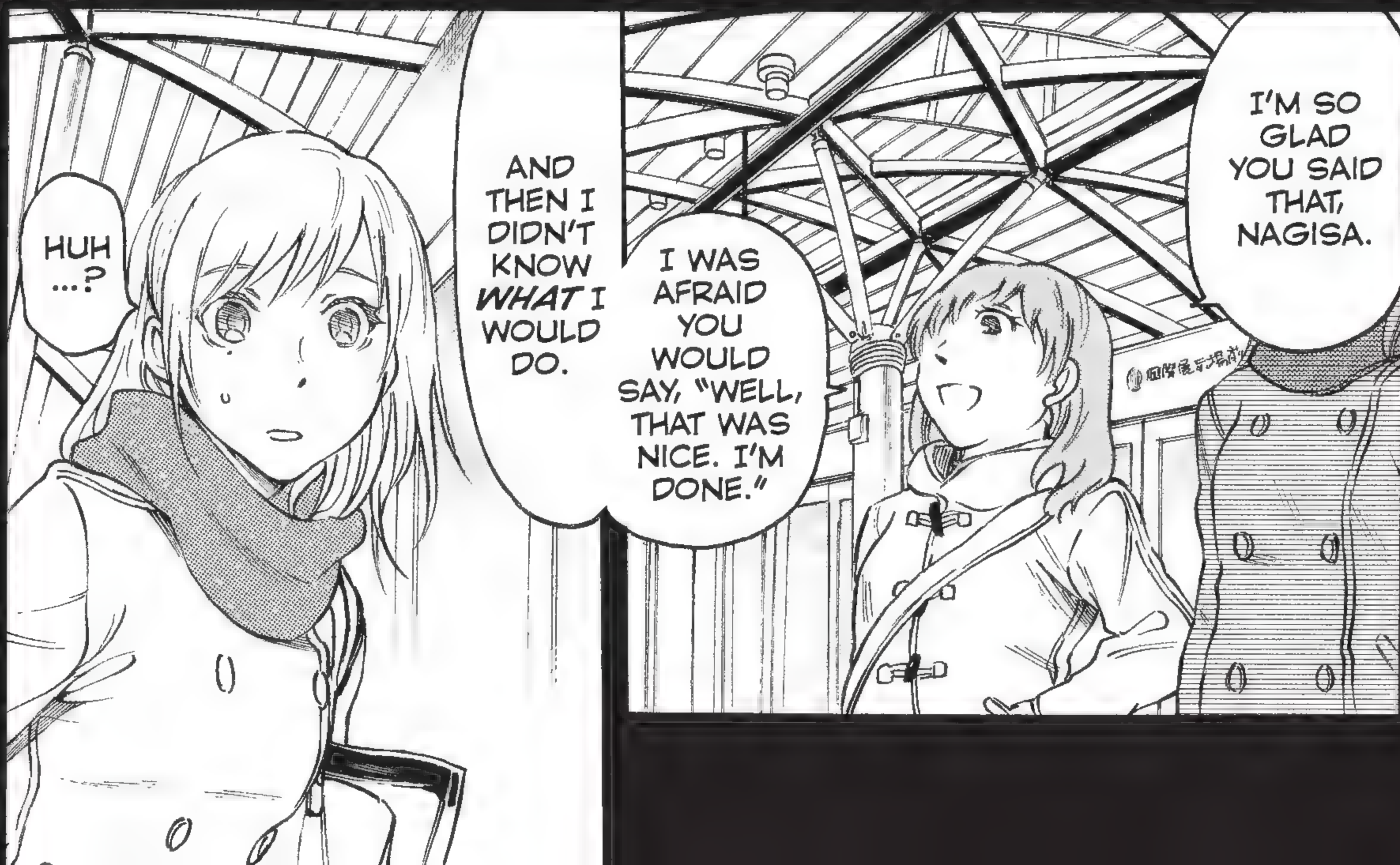
THAT'S A RELIEF!



AND MAYBE WE SHOULD REALLY LOOK AT THE MANGA AND ANIME, SO WE CAN GET ALL THE POSES RIGHT.

IT'S JUST NOT GOING TO BE THE SAME UNLESS YOU MAKE THE COSTUMES FROM SCRATCH!

I MEAN, I WAS THINKING TODAY WAS A TOTAL BUST, TOO.



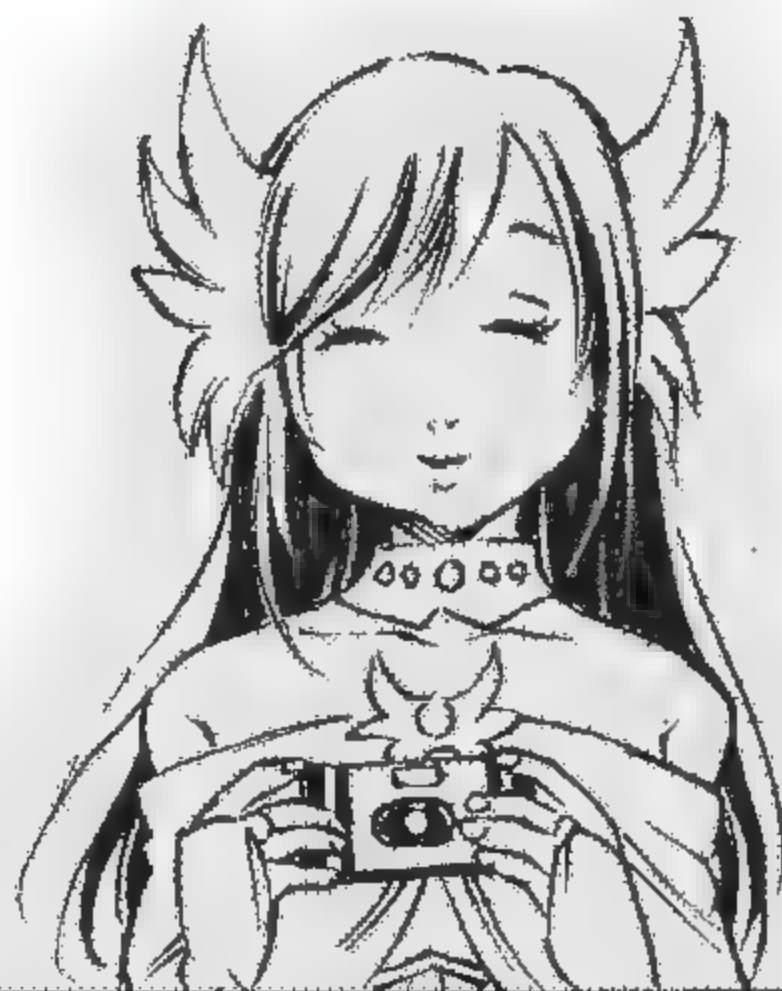
HUH ...?

AND THEN I DIDN'T KNOW *WHAT* I WOULD DO.

I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULD SAY, "WELL, THAT WAS NICE. I'M DONE."

I'M SO GLAD YOU SAID THAT, NAGISA.

IT'S NOT
WORTH IT
UNLESS
YOU ENJOY
IT.



YOU
REMEM-
BER.

THAT OTHER
COSPLAYER
TOLD US.

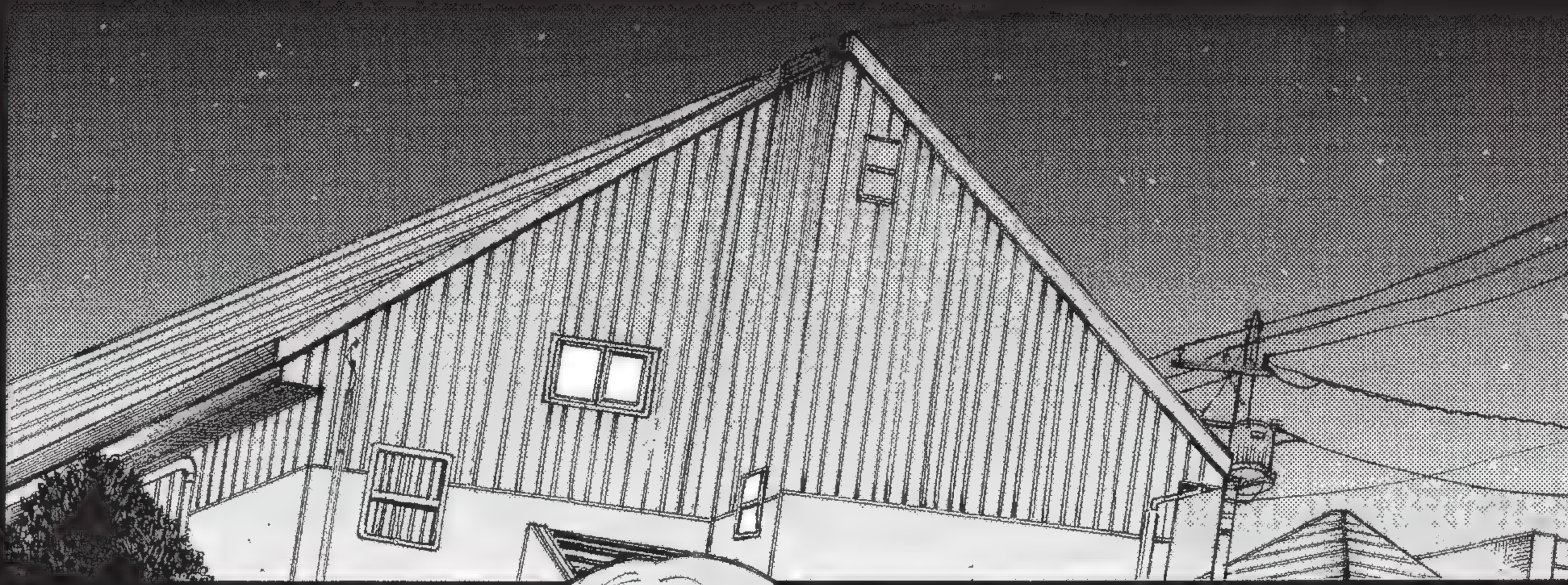
GRIN

SO WE
HAVE TO HAVE
ENOUGH FUN
TO MAKE UP
FOR TODAY'S
LOSS!

YEAH
...

NAGI-
SA.

LET'S
TRY
JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER.



WHERE BY "MAKING" I MEAN "THROWING TOGETHER"...

CRUNCH
CRUNCH

BUT HEY. I REALIZED WHEN WE WERE MAKING THOSE COSTUMES.

...YOU'RE PROBABLY REALLY PHOTOGENIC.

AND EARLIER TODAY, THAT OTHER COSPLAYER SAID...

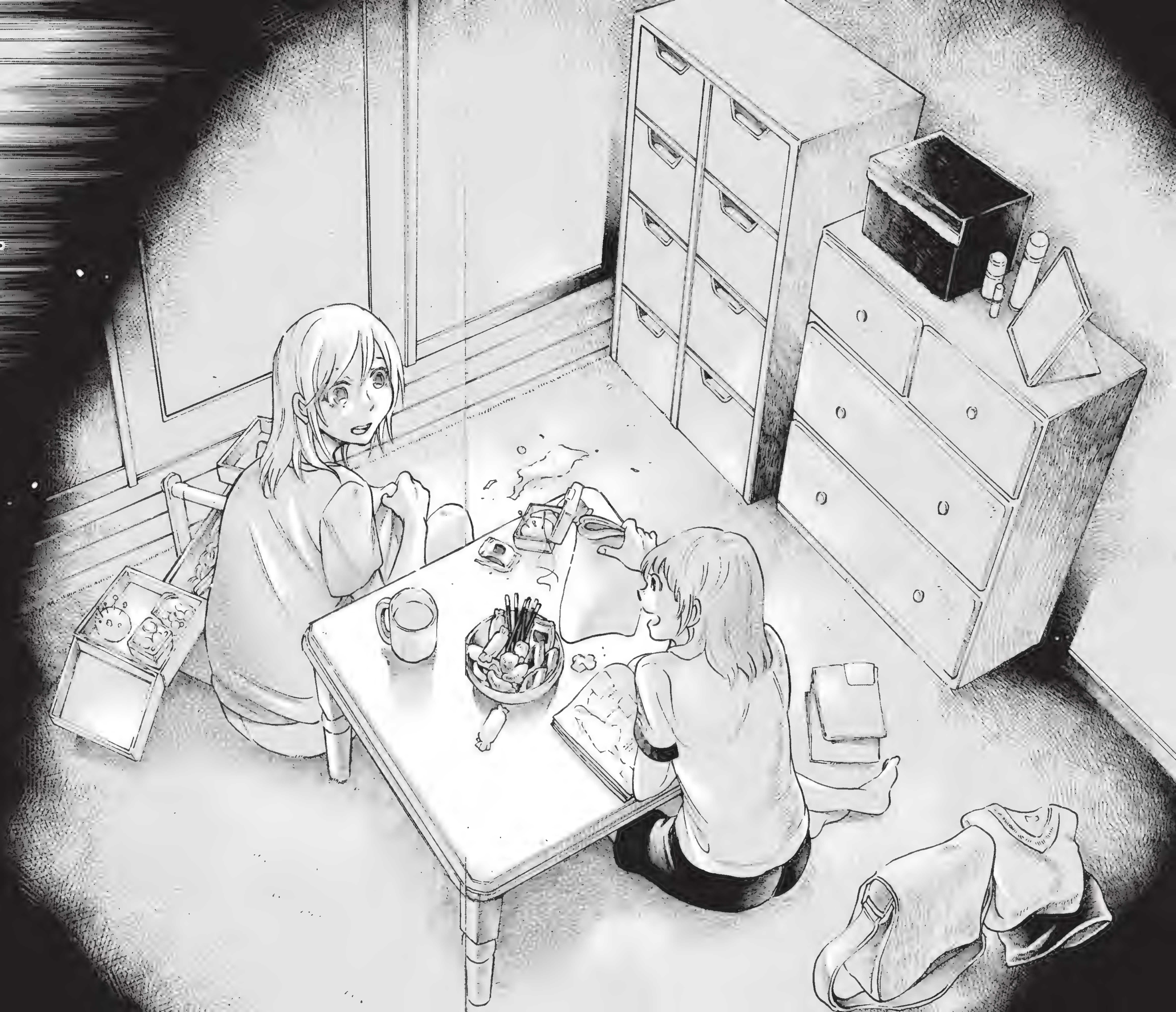
HUH?

I THINK YOU'RE THE SEWER OF THE TWO OF US, NAGISA.

S N A P



...*TIME*...





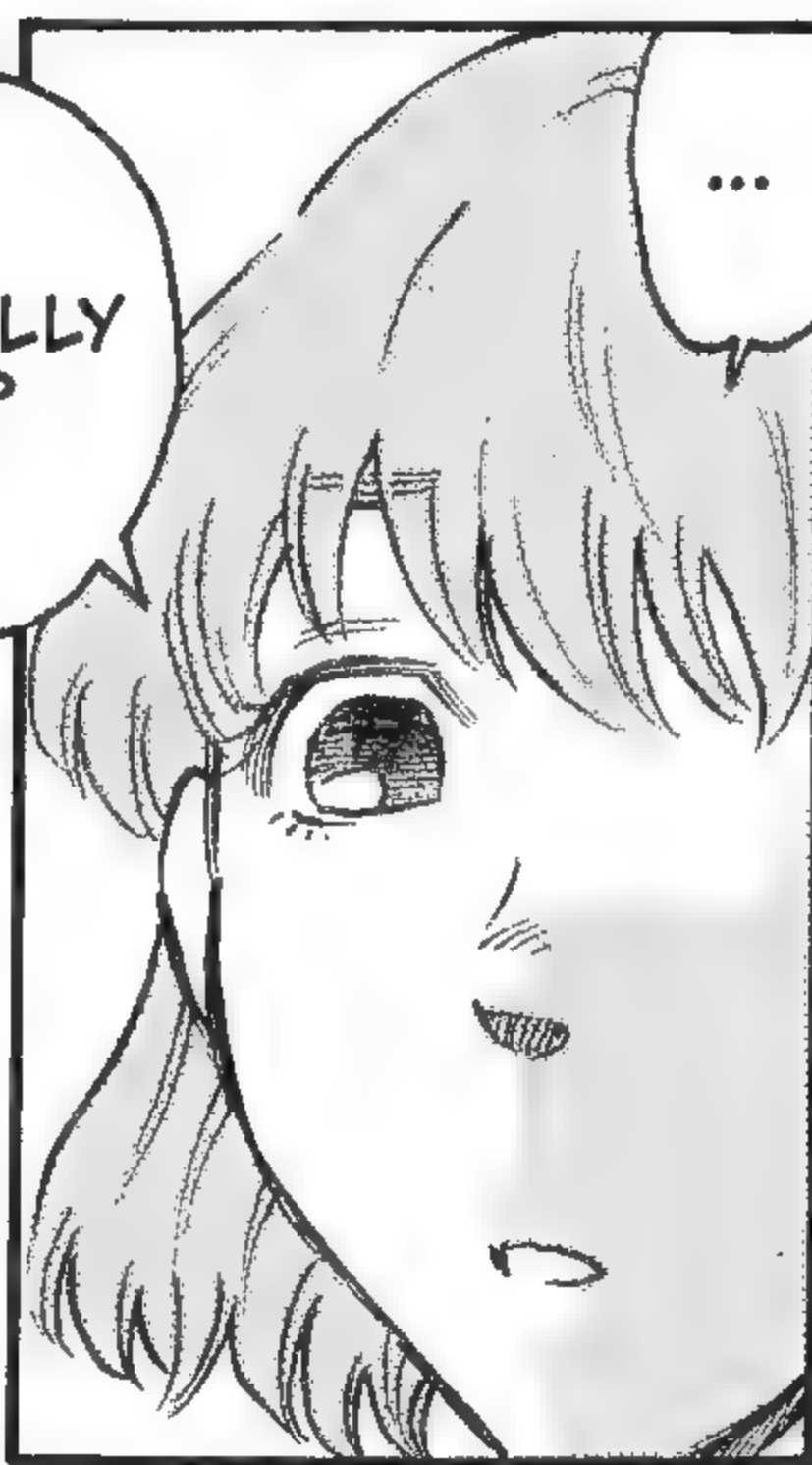
SHUT

...COULD GO
ON LIKE THIS
FOREVER.



HAVE YOU EVER
CONSIDERED
GIVING UP
COSPLAY?

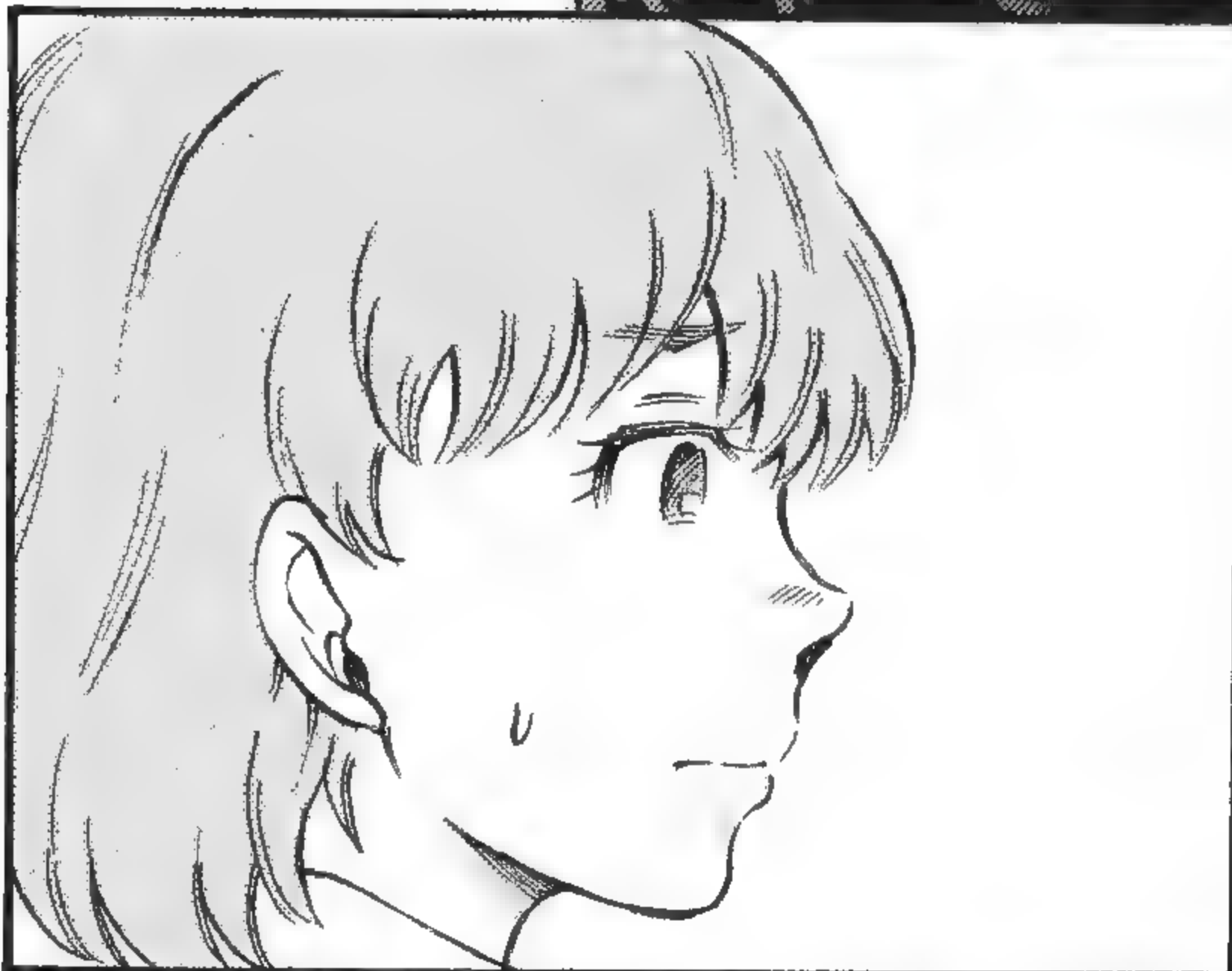






...YOU'VE
BEEN
MAKING...

...THE
WEIRDEST
FACE.



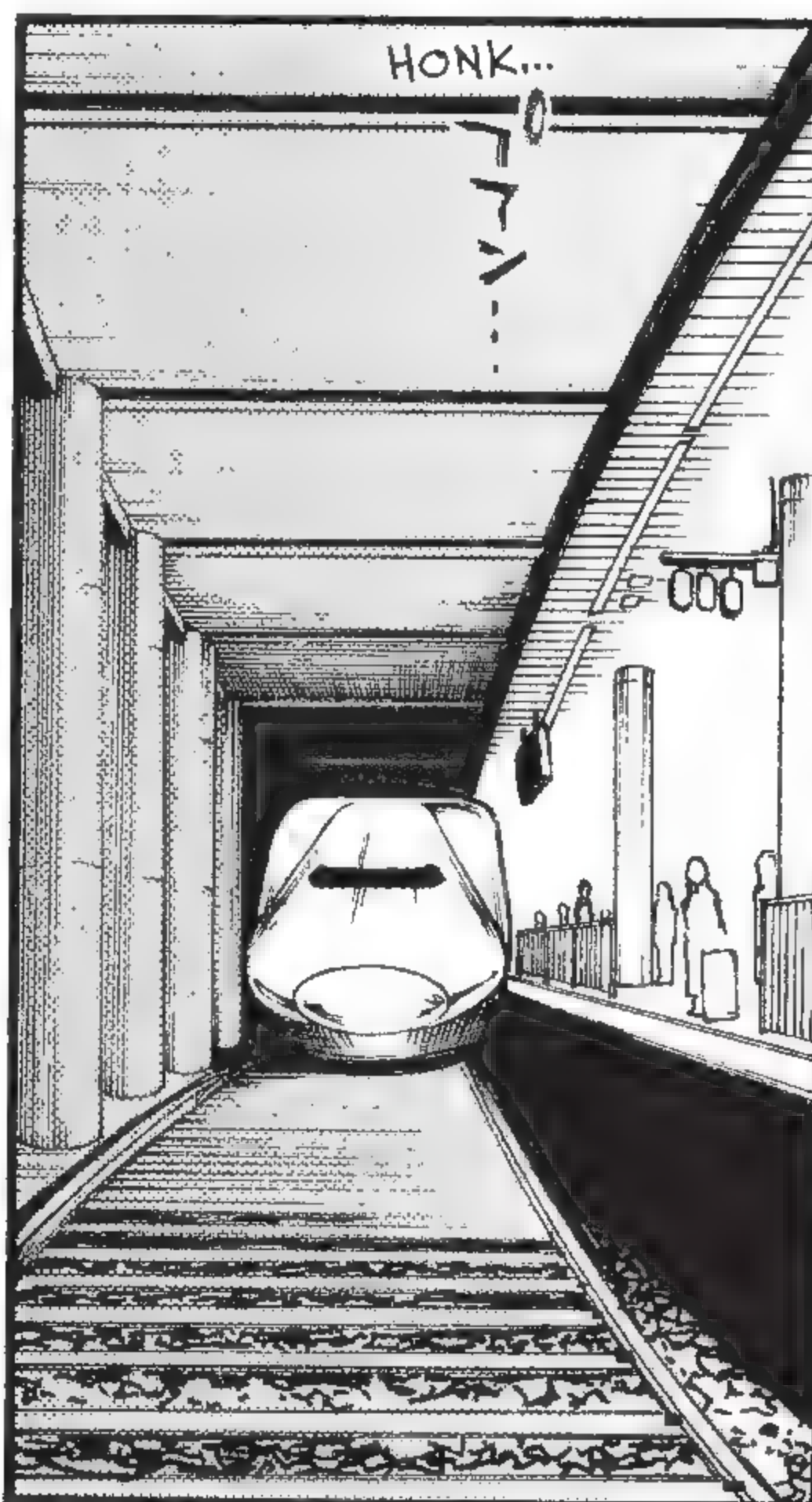
I...
HAVE
?

HUH
...?

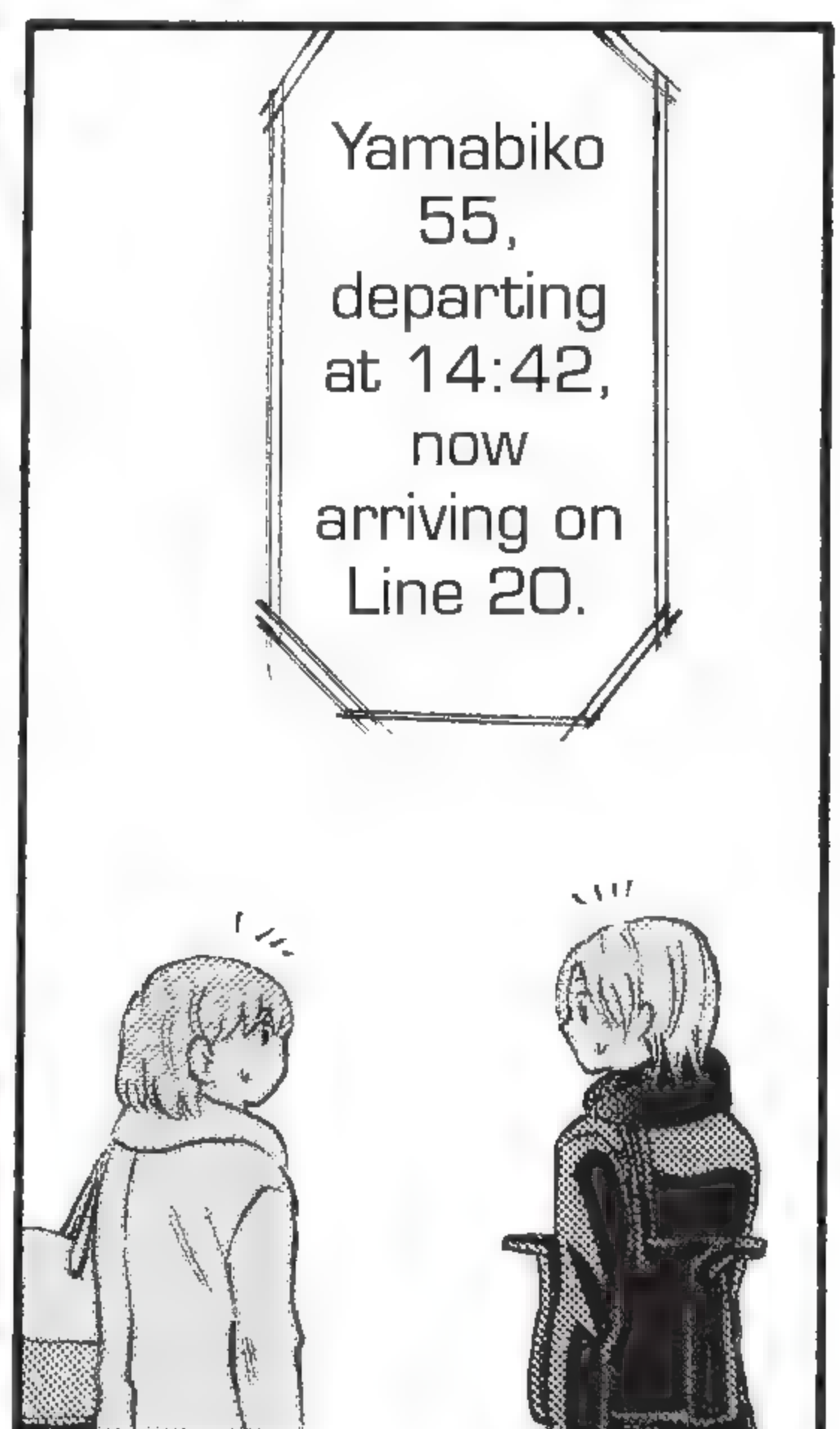


S...SEE
YOU
LATER.

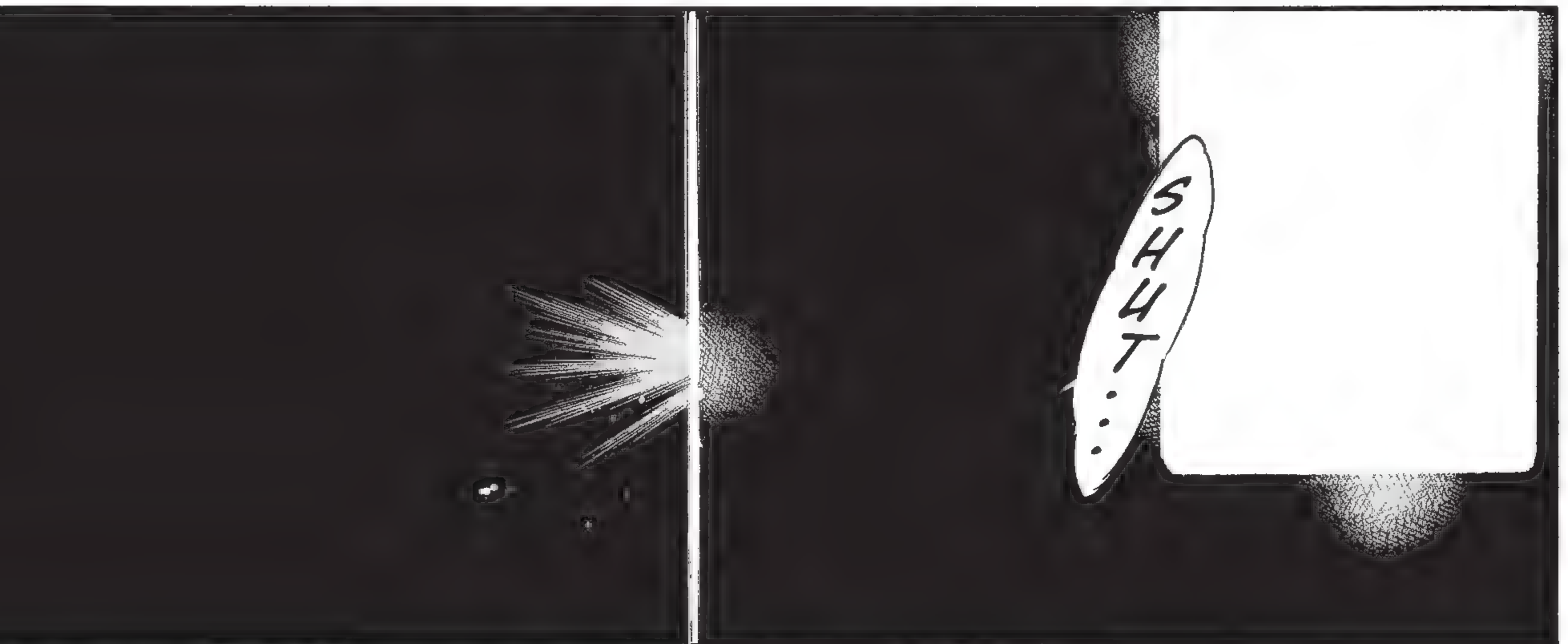
KIMIKO.

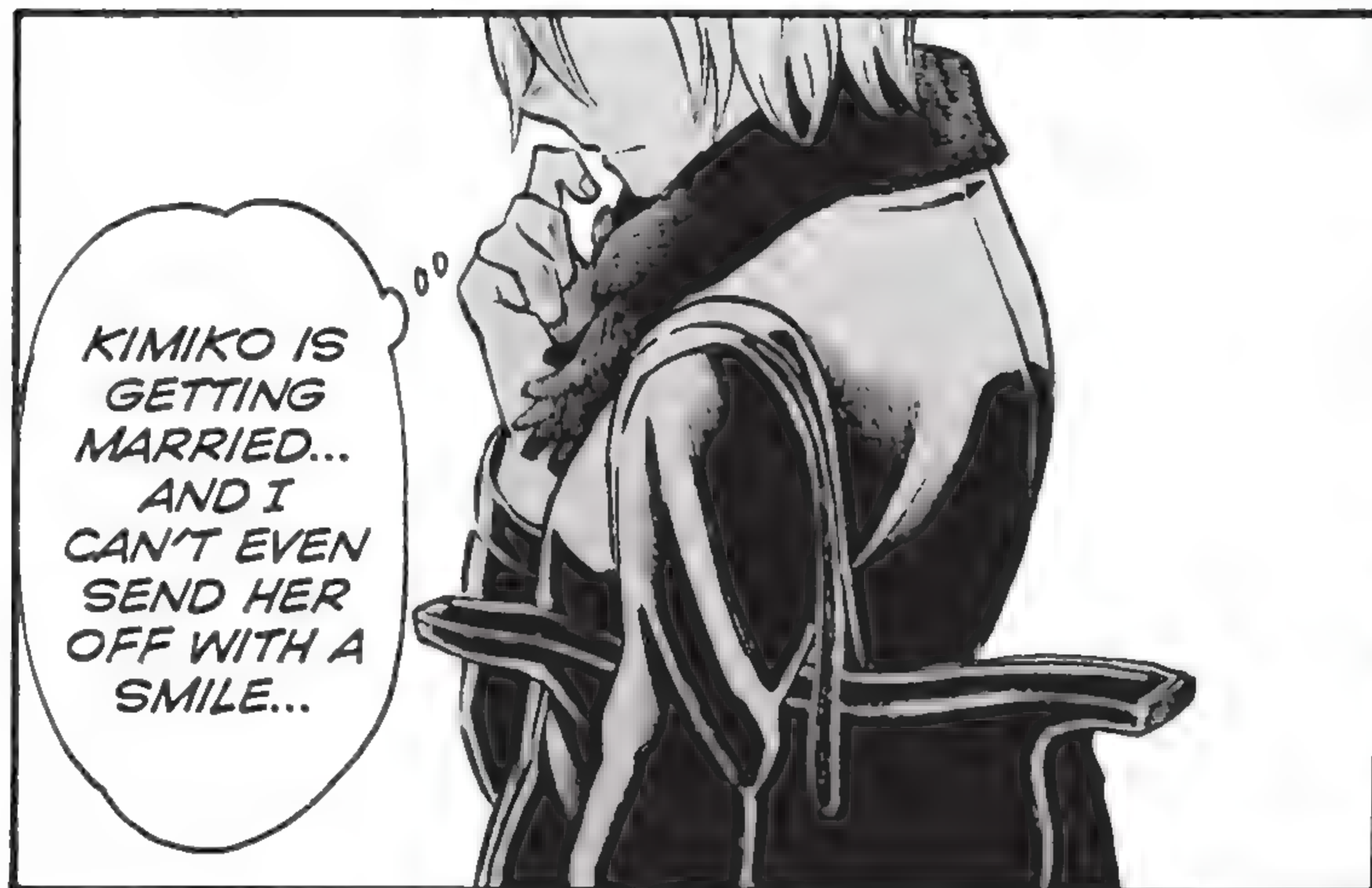


HONK...



Yamabiko
55,
departing
at 14:42,
now
arriving on
Line 20.







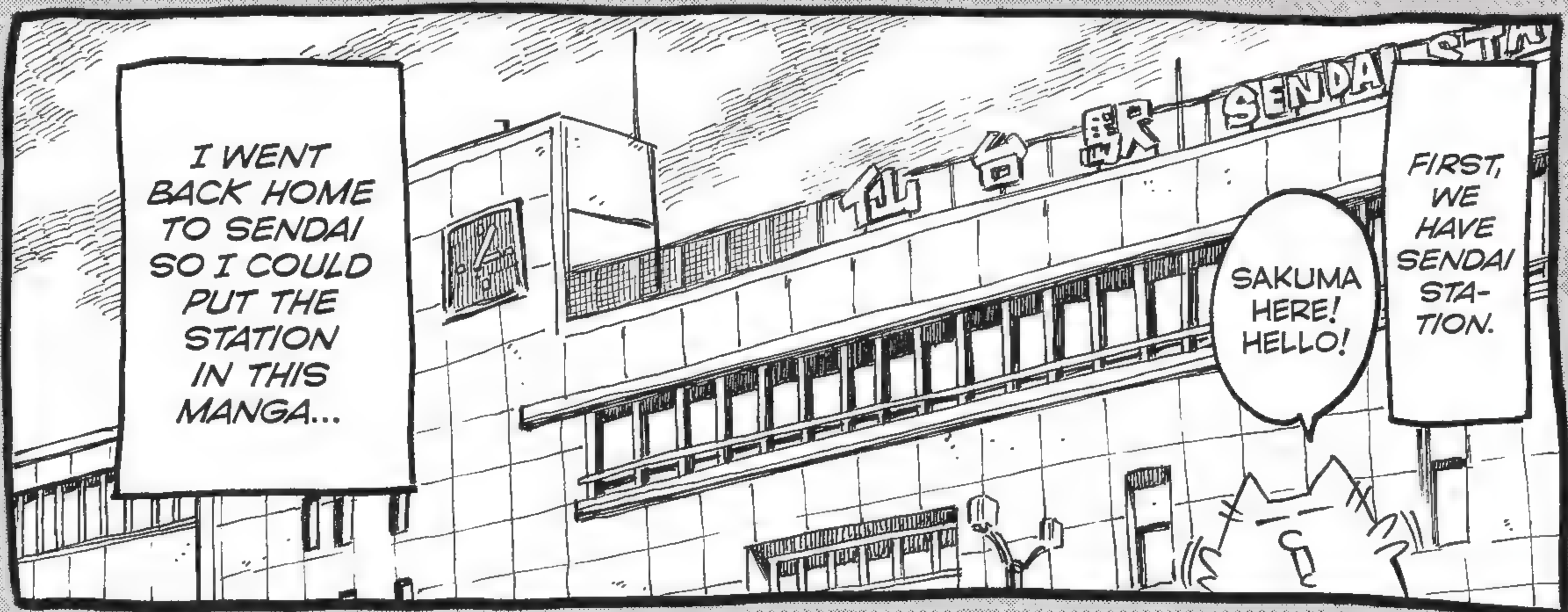
「おはようございます」
「おはようございます」

「おはようございます」
「おはようございます」

n.35 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.36

(1/10/10)

おはようございます



I WENT
BACK HOME
TO SENDAI
SO I COULD
PUT THE
STATION
IN THIS
MANGA...

FIRST,
WE
HAVE
SENDAI
STATION.

SAKUMA
HERE!
HELLO!

Sign JR Conventional Train

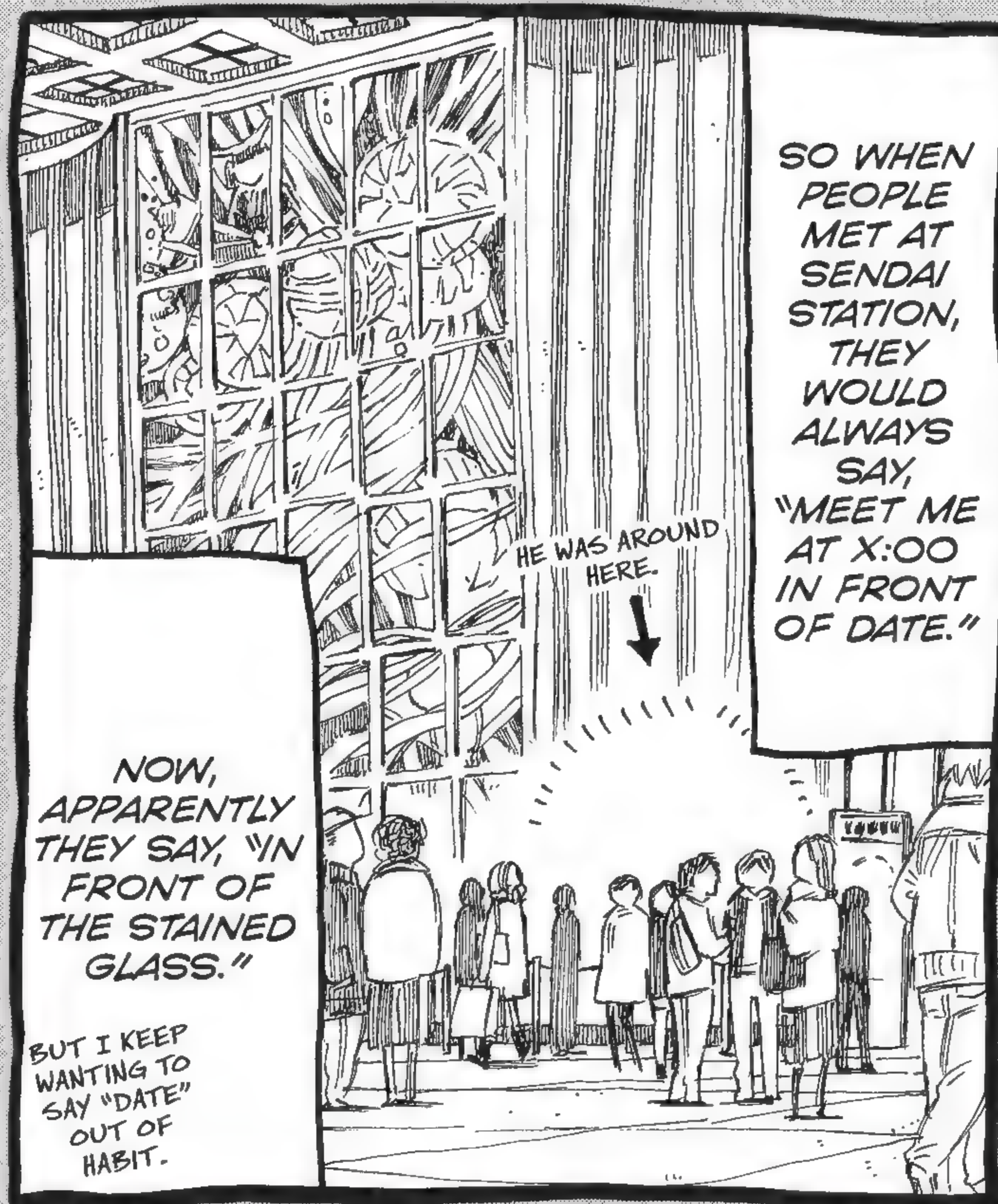


I ENDED UP
DIGGING OUT
THE PICTURES I
TOOK BEFORE
I MOVED TO
TOKYO, AND
USING THOSE
FOR REFERENCE
WHEN DRAWING
THE MANGA.

OR ACTUALLY, MY
ASSISTANT DREW IT...

WHAT'S GOING
ON WITH THE
CEILING?

BUT! THEY
WERE
REMODELING!
THE WHOLE
PLACE WAS
COVERED IN
TARPS, INSIDE
AND OUT!!

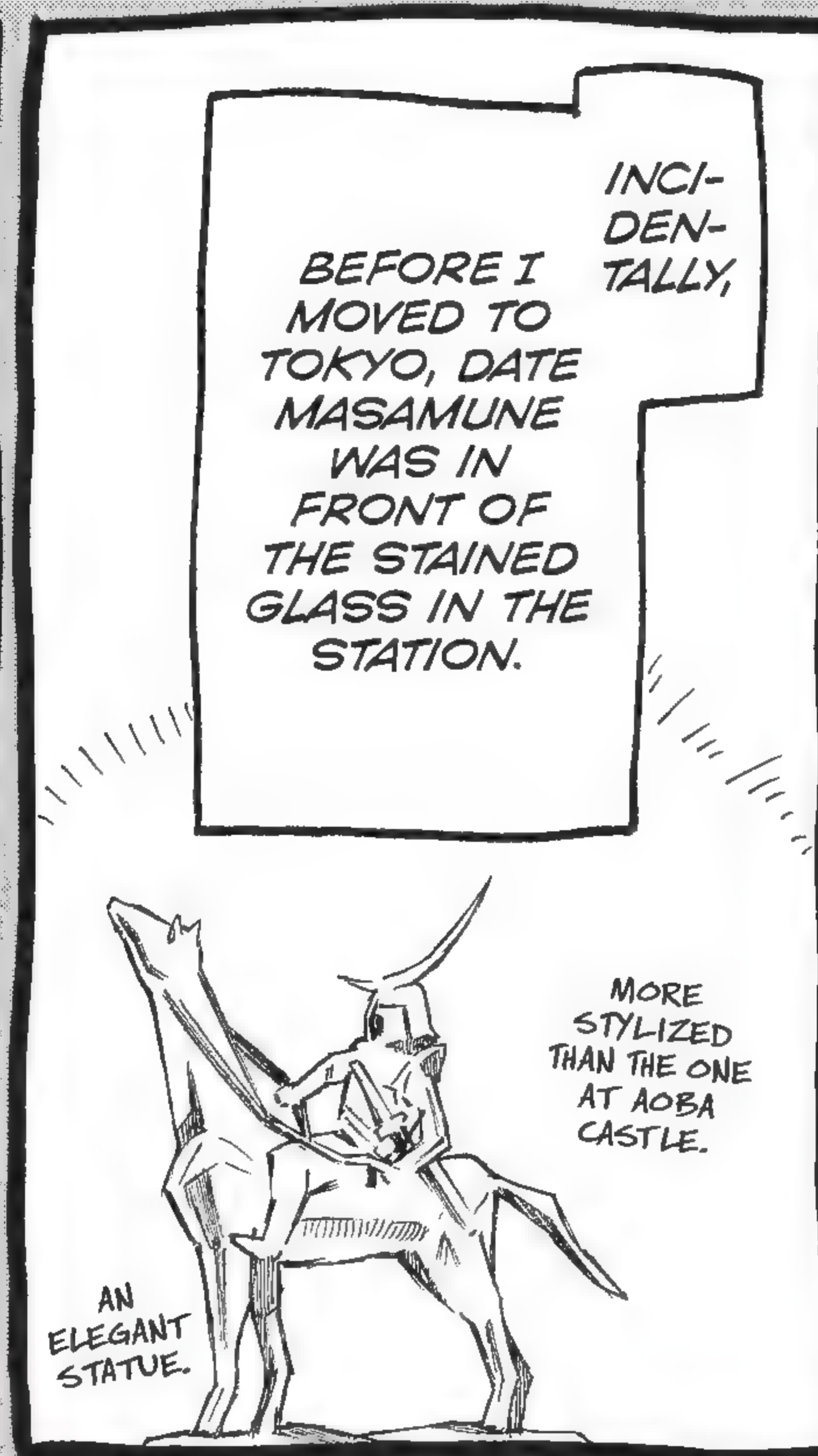


SO WHEN
PEOPLE
MET AT
SENDAI
STATION,
THEY
WOULD
ALWAYS
SAY,
"MEET ME
AT X:00
IN FRONT
OF DATE."

HE WAS AROUND
HERE.

NOW,
APPARENTLY
THEY SAY, "IN
FRONT OF
THE STAINED
GLASS."

BUT I KEEP
WANTING TO
SAY "DATE"
OUT OF
HABIT.

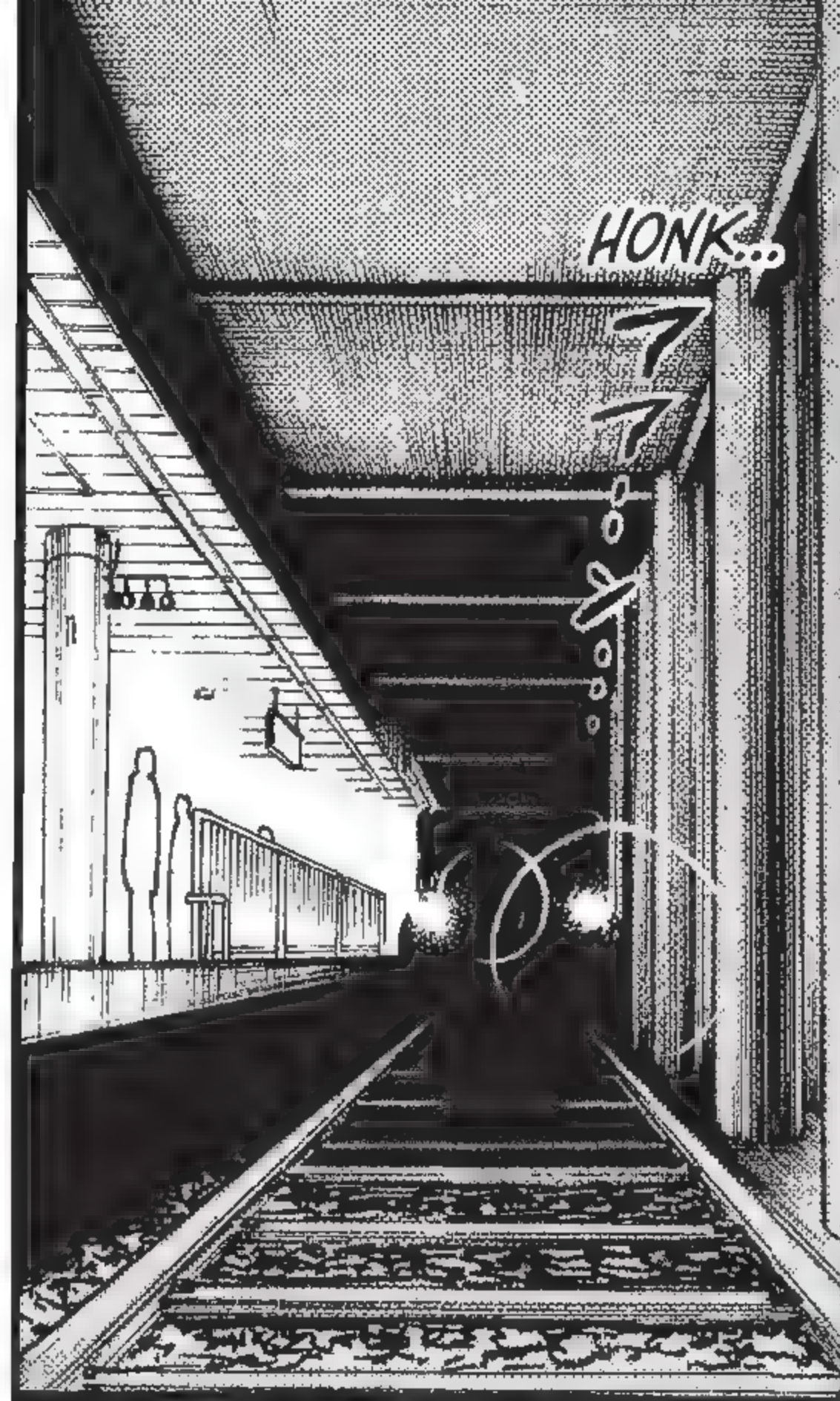


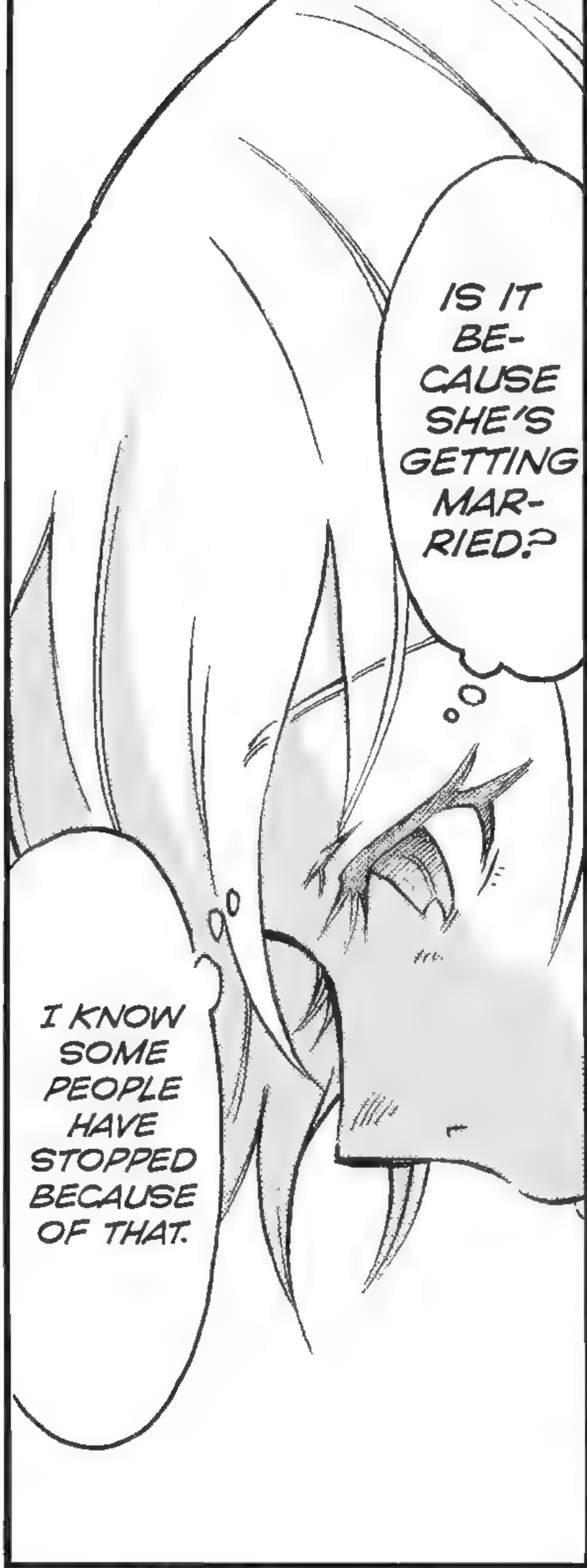
BEFORE I
MOVED TO
TOKYO, DATE
MASAMUNE
WAS IN
FRONT OF
THE STAINED
GLASS IN THE
STATION.

INCI-
DEN-
TALLY,

MORE
STYLIZED
THAN THE ONE
AT AOBA
CASTLE.

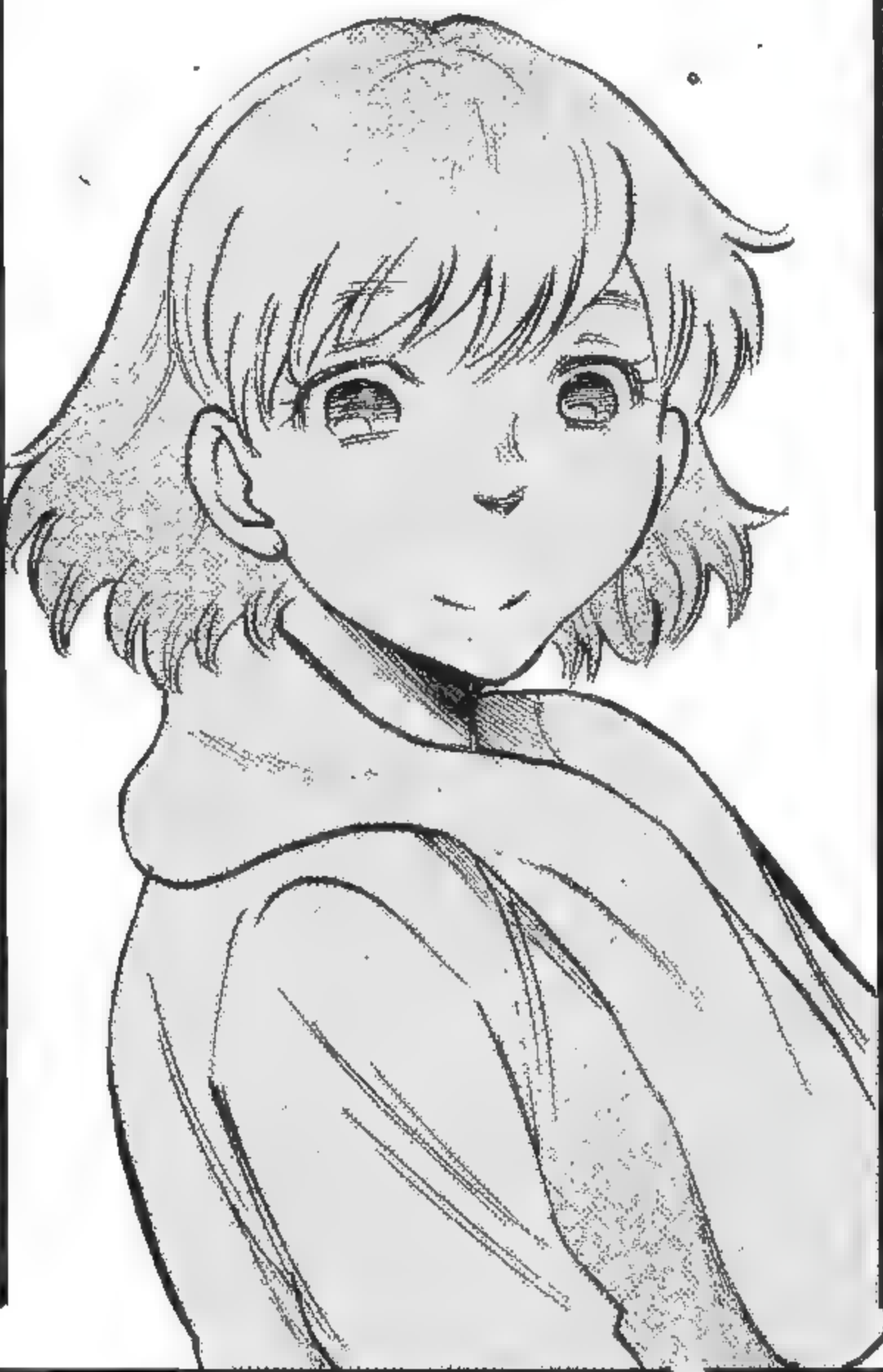
AN
ELEGANT
STATUE.



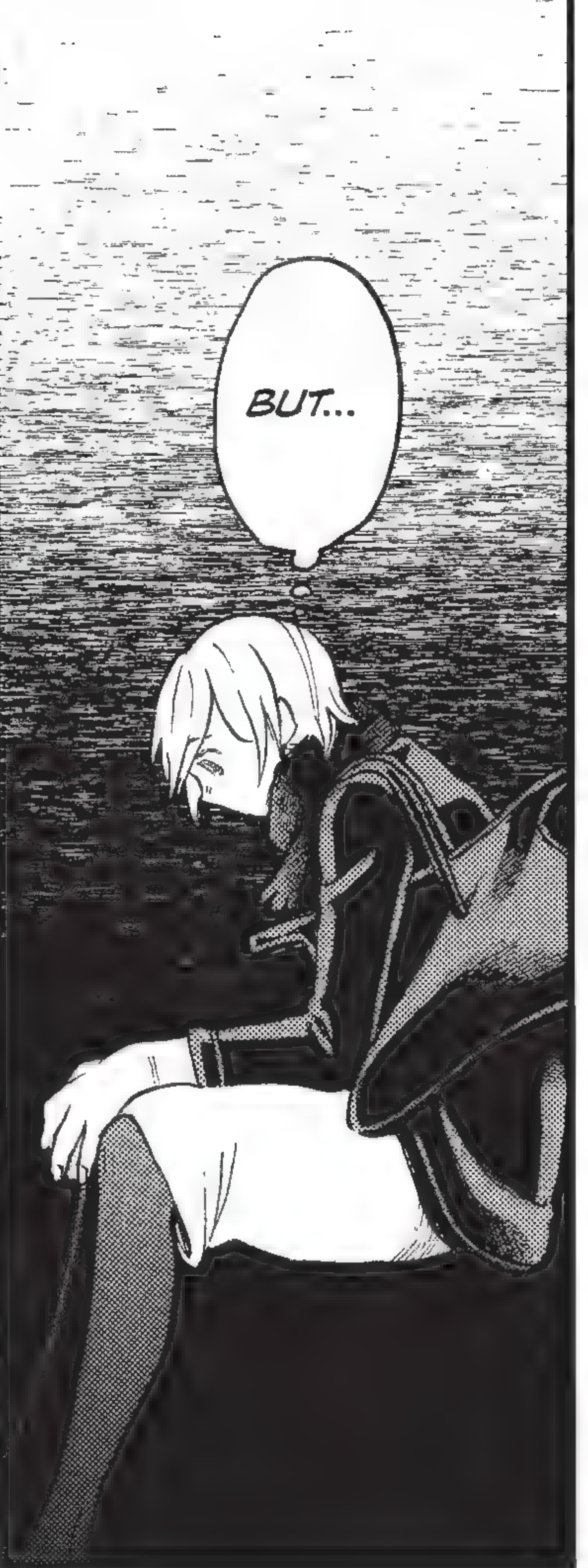


I KNOW
SOME
PEOPLE
HAVE
STOPPED
BECAUSE
OF THAT.

IS IT
BE-
CAUSE
SHE'S
GETTING
MAR-
RIED.?



...WHY WOULD
KIMIKO QUIT
COSPLAY.?



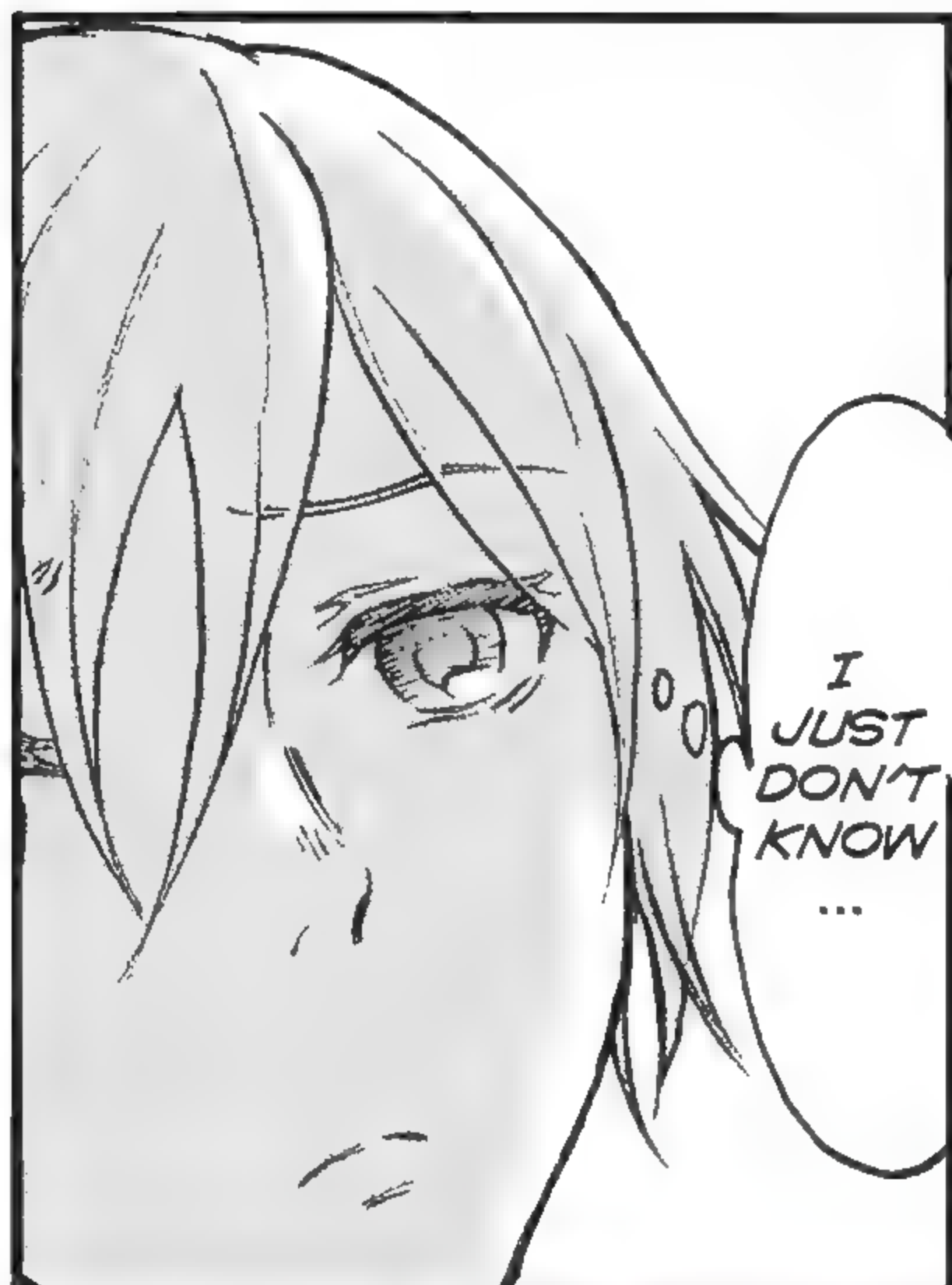
BUT...



KIMIKO
DOESN'T
HIDE HER
COSPLAY, SO
IT WOULDN'T
BE BECAUSE
SOMEONE
FOUND OUT.



BUT...IS
THAT REALLY
THE ONLY
REASON.?



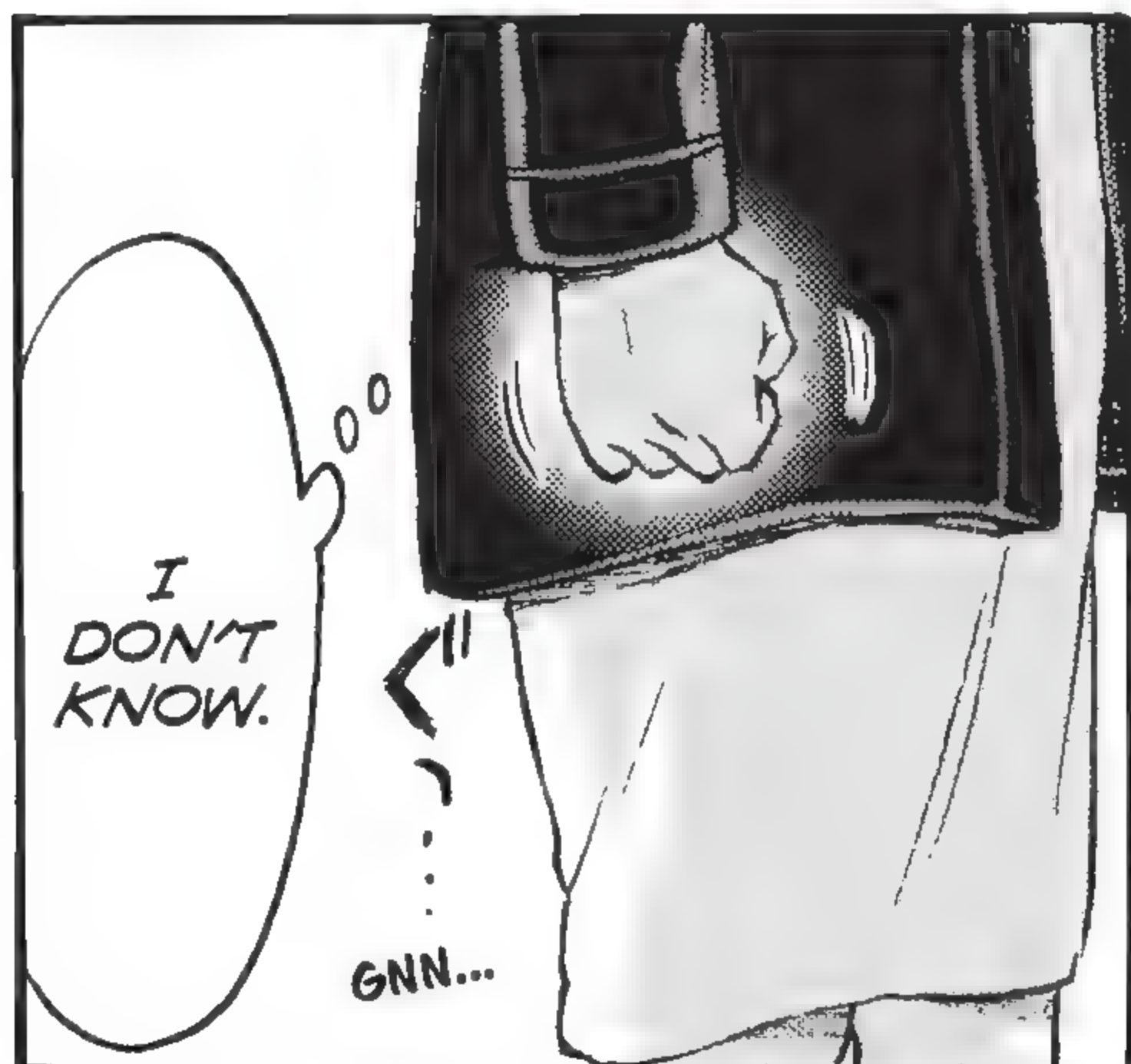
I
JUST
DON'T
KNOW
...

AND THEN,
SOME
PEOPLE
QUIT FOR
A WHILE
AND THEN
TAKE IT UP
AGAIN.



AND SHE
SAID SHE'S
GOING TO
STOP, BUT
THAT CAN
MEAN ALL
KINDS OF
THINGS.

THERE
HAS TO BE
A GOOD
REASON
FOR IT.

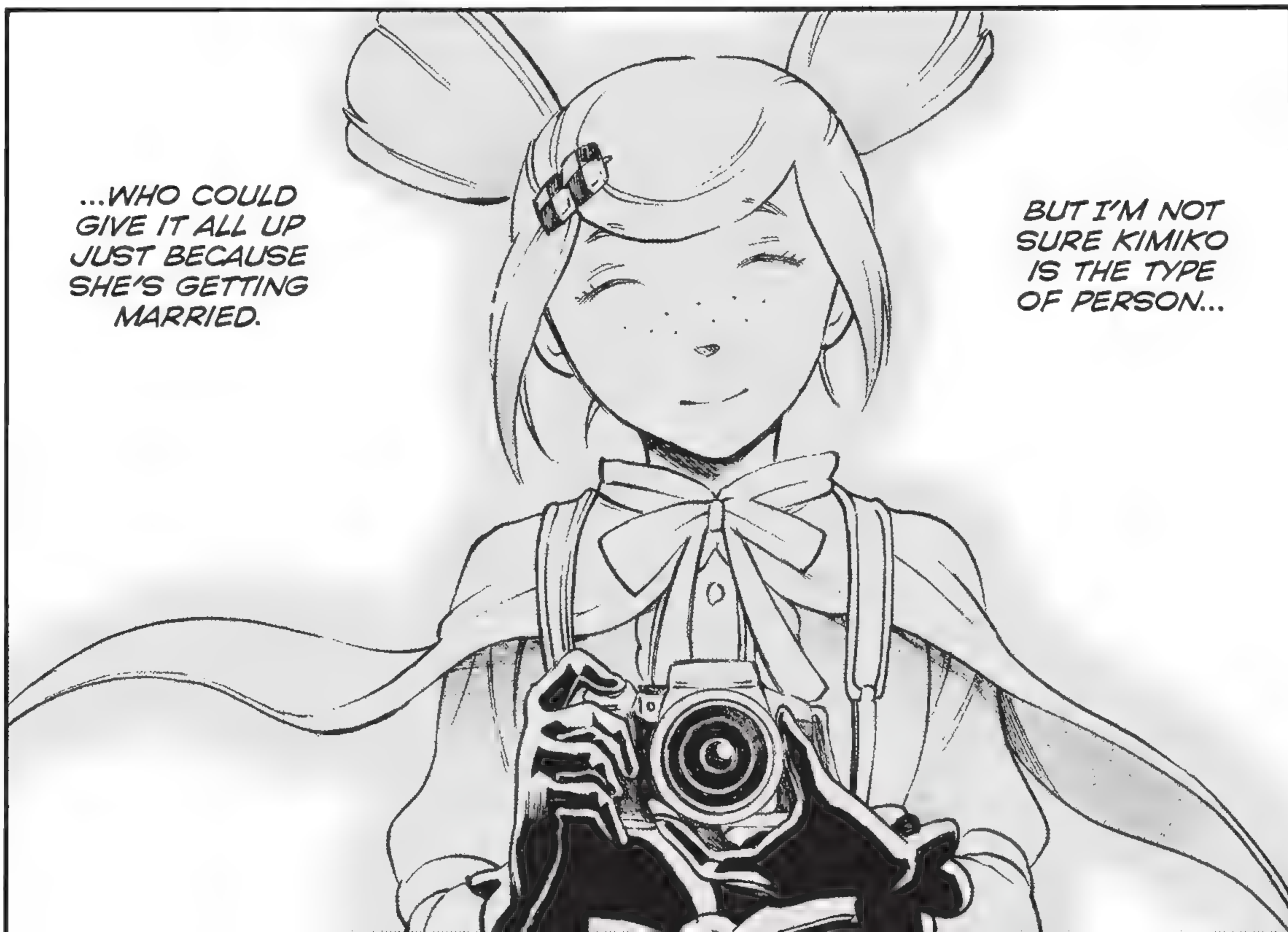


I
DON'T
KNOW.

GNN...

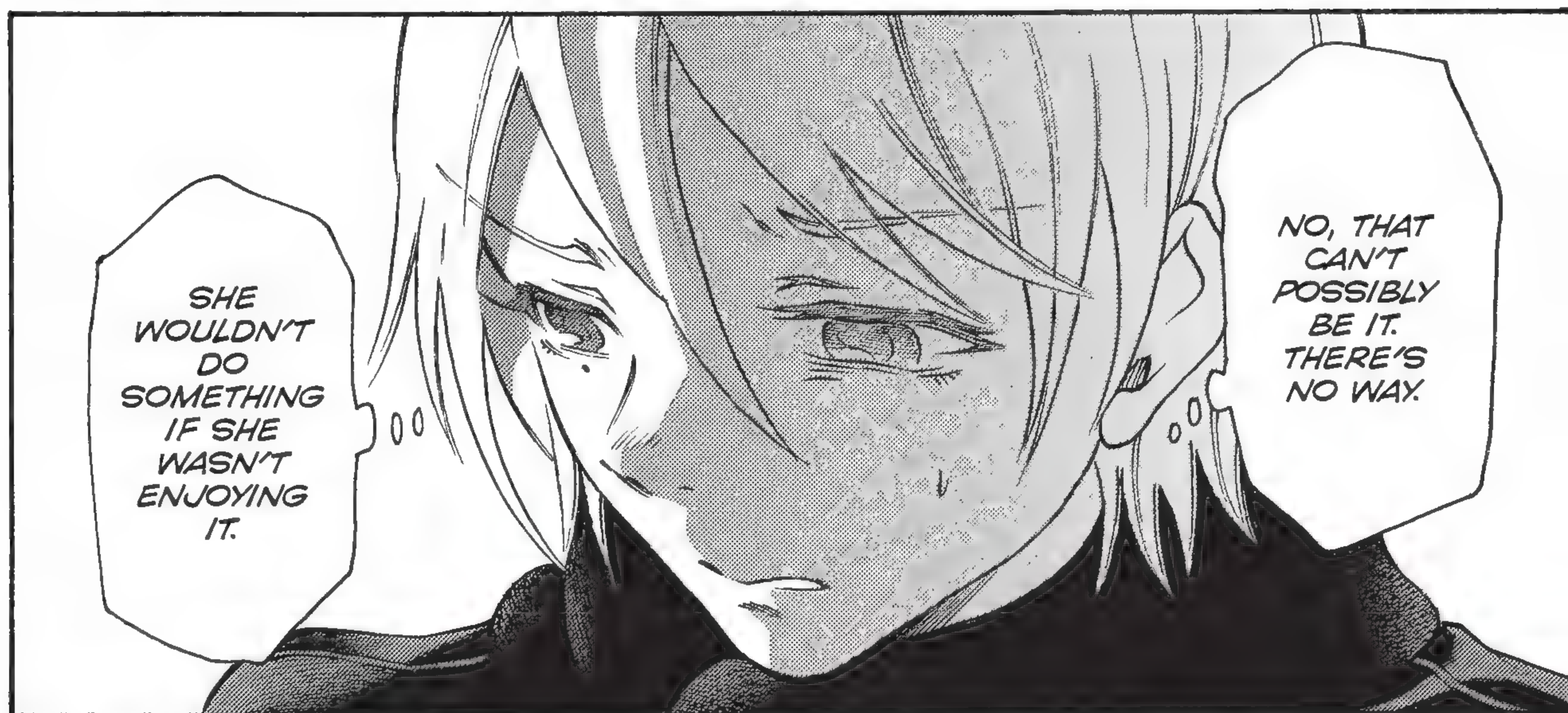
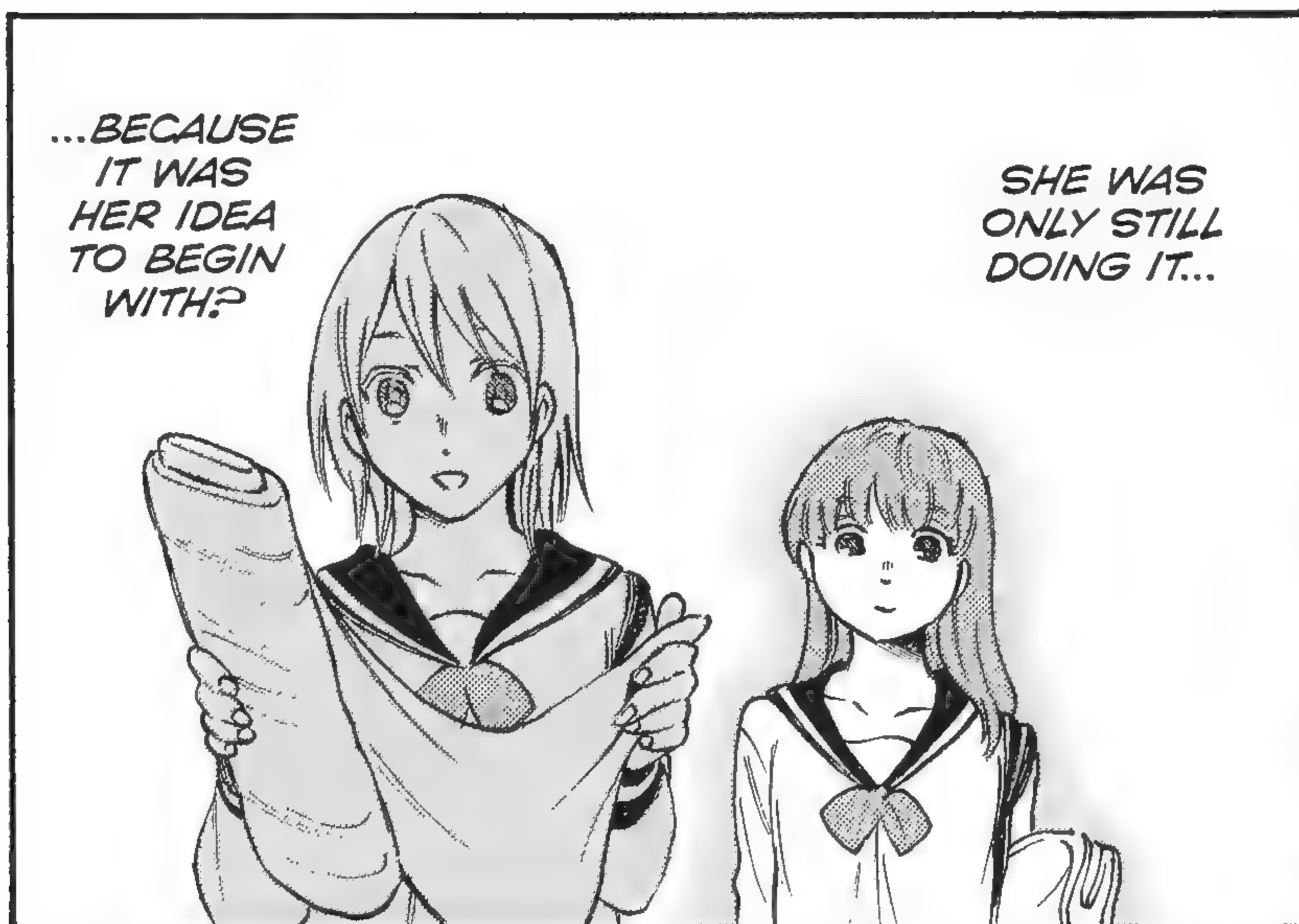


IT'S NOT
LIKE YOU
CAN DO IT
FOREVER,
ANYWAY.



...WHO COULD
GIVE IT ALL UP
JUST BECAUSE
SHE'S GETTING
MARRIED.

BUT I'M NOT
SURE KIMIKO
IS THE TYPE
OF PERSON...

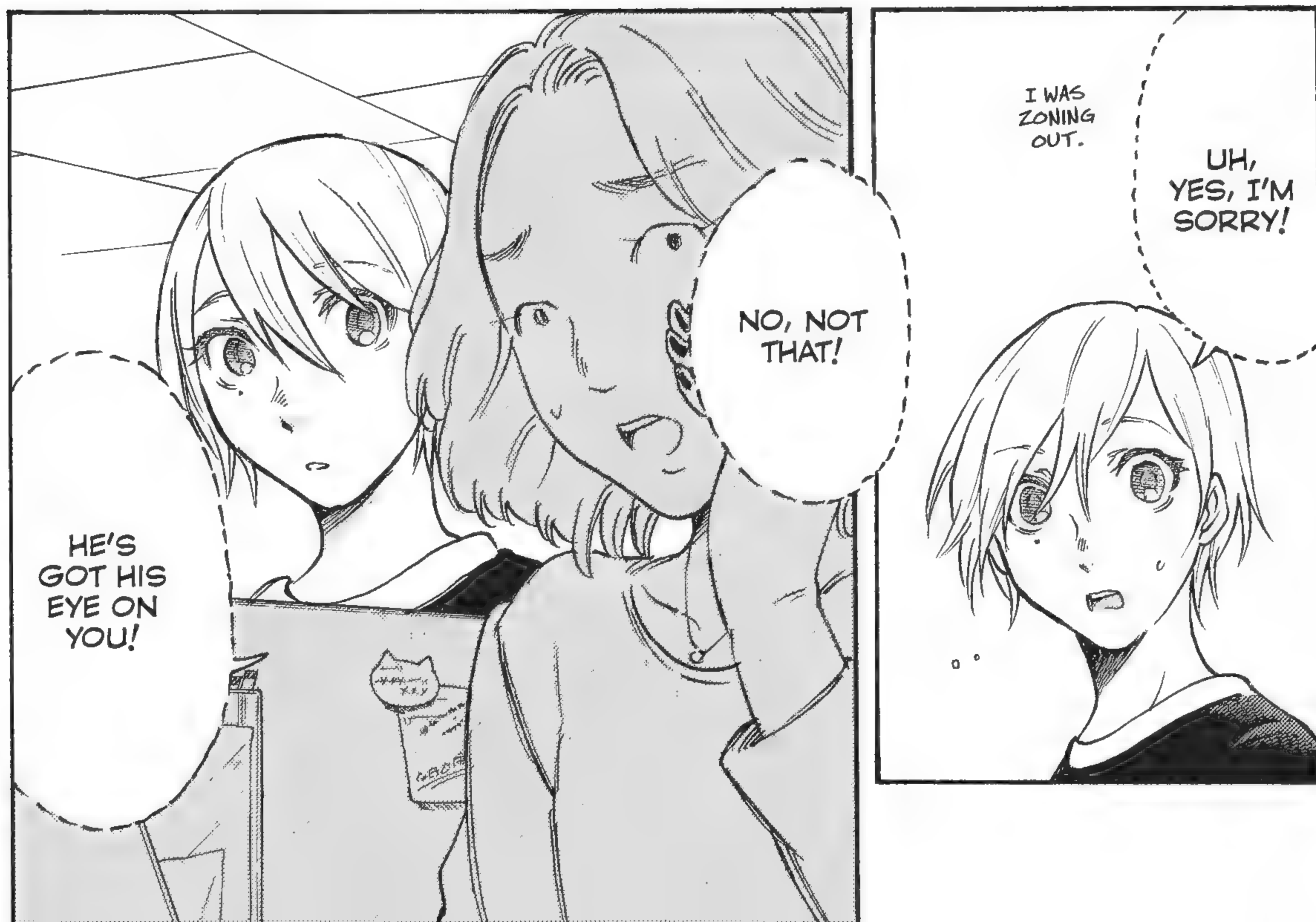


Sign: Ueno





The next day





DIRECTOR
HASE!



HUH?
Y...YES,
MA'AM!

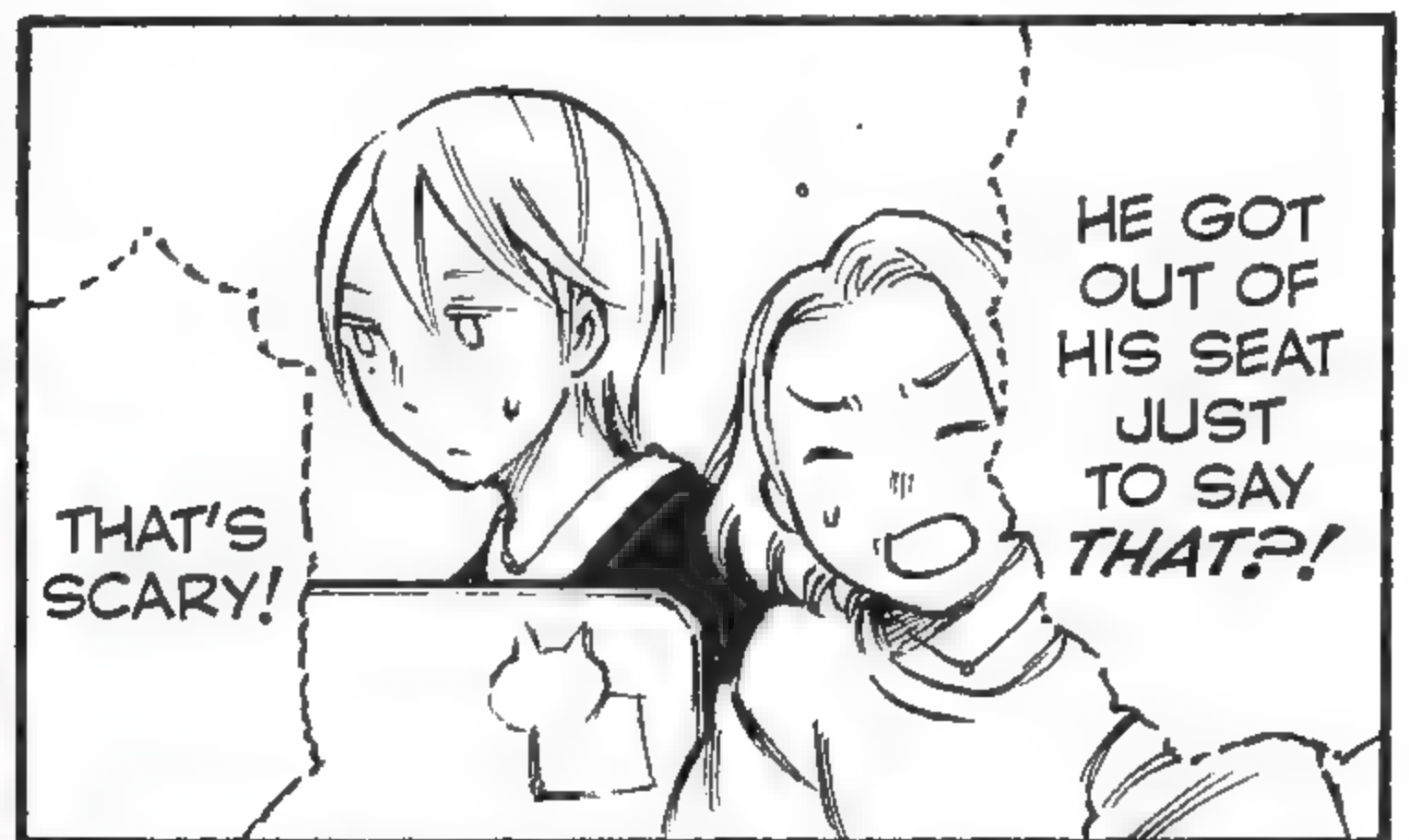
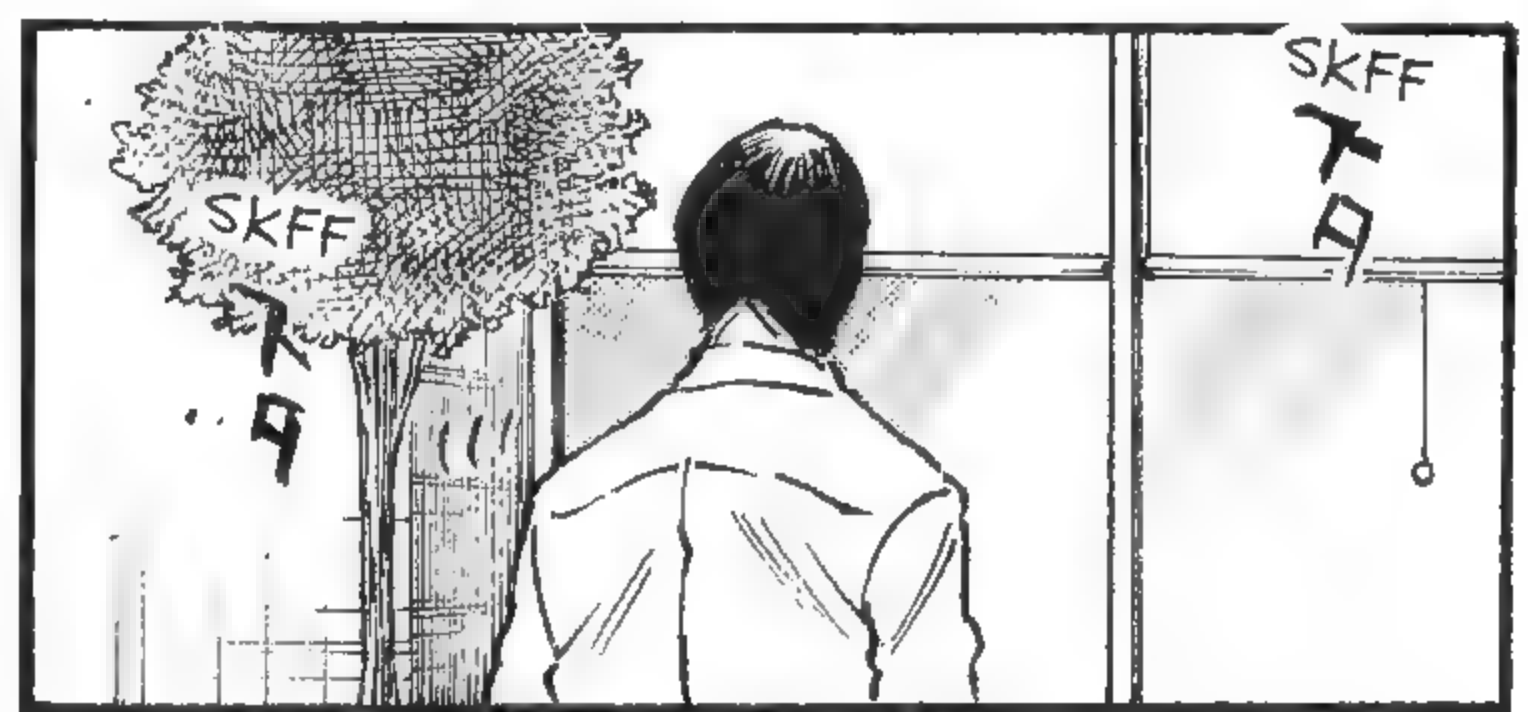
YOU'RE IN
TROUBLE!
GET TO
WORK,
KATAURA-
SAN!
PRETEND IF
YOU HAVE
TO!

URK?!

CLATTER
た"ッ



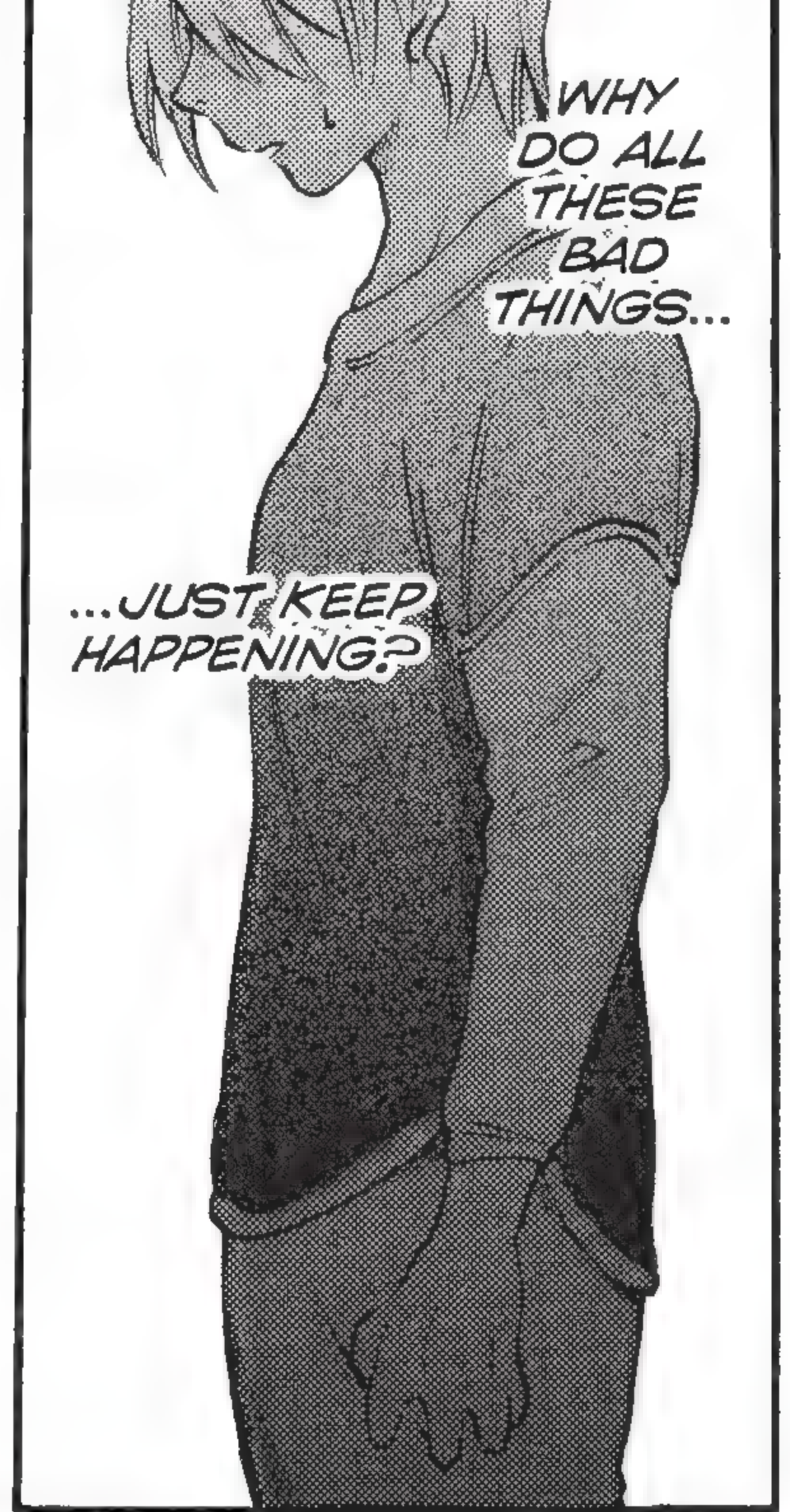
KATA-
URA-
SAN.







KATAURA-SAN.



WHY
DO ALL
THESE
BAD
THINGS...

...JUST KEEP
HAPPENING?



I'M SURE
YOU HAVE
A MINUTE.

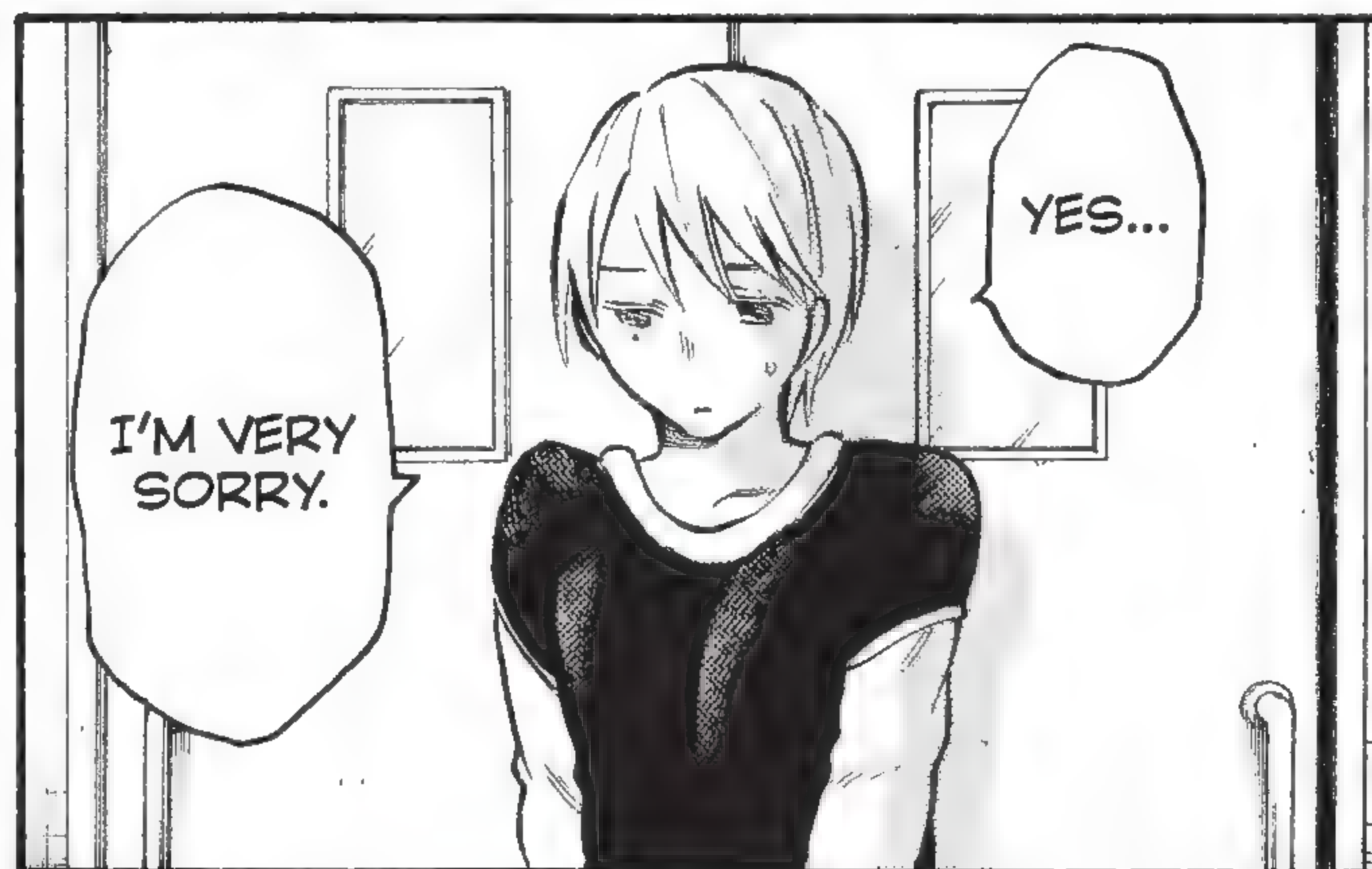
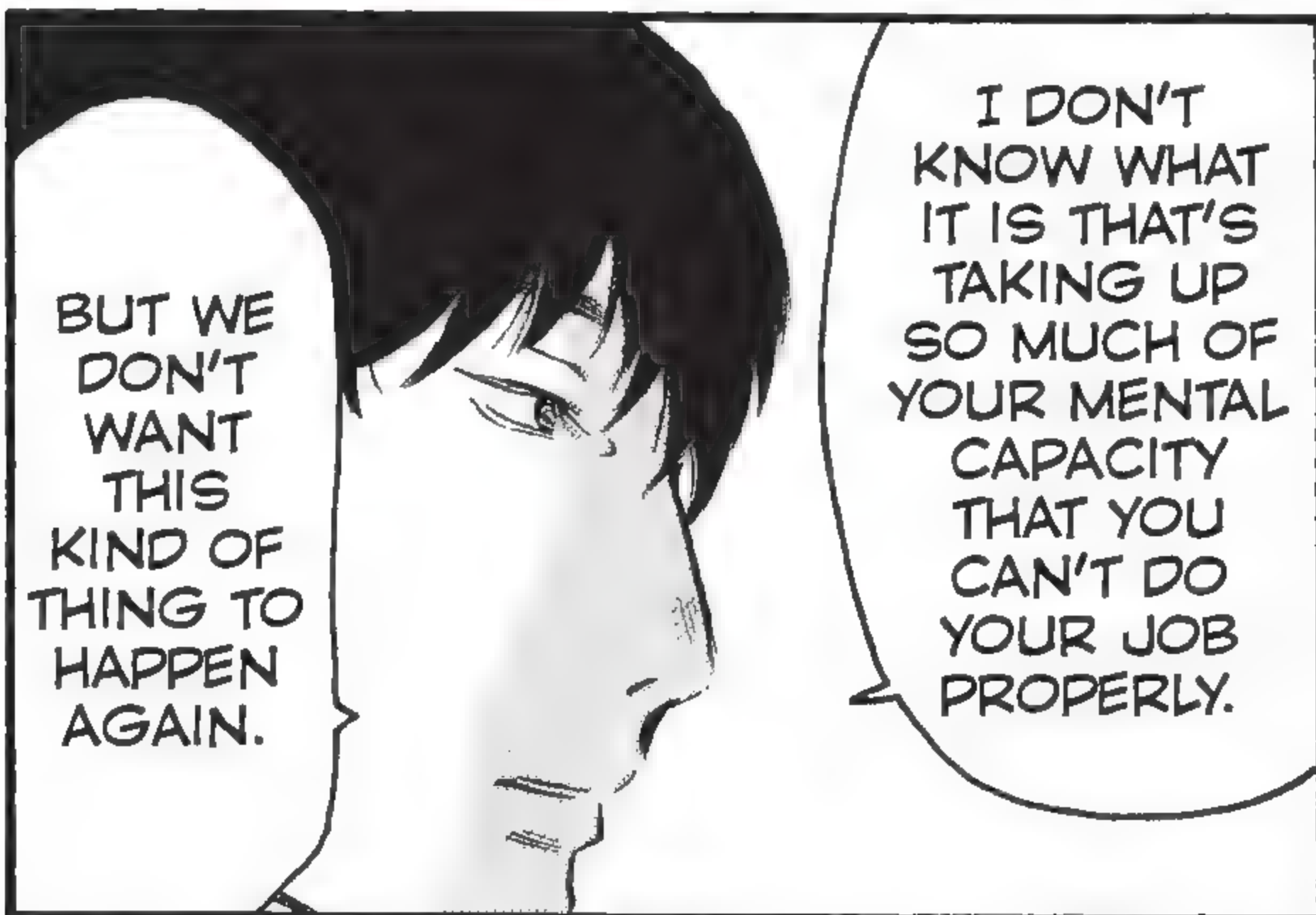
I NEED TO
TALK TO YOU
AFTER WORK.



...

DONG

DING





YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING. YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN THE DAY OFF.

ARE YOU ON YOUR PERIOD?



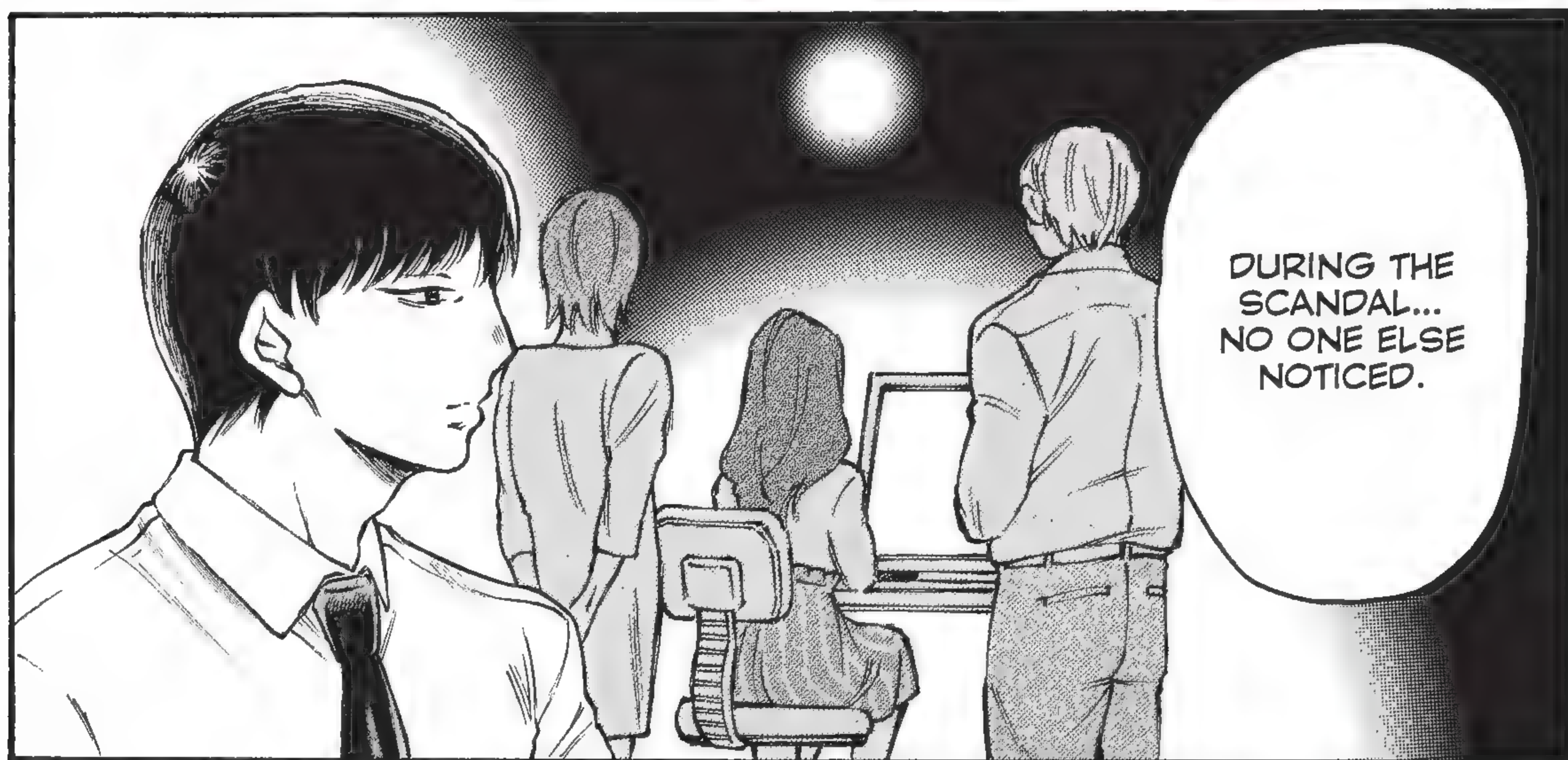
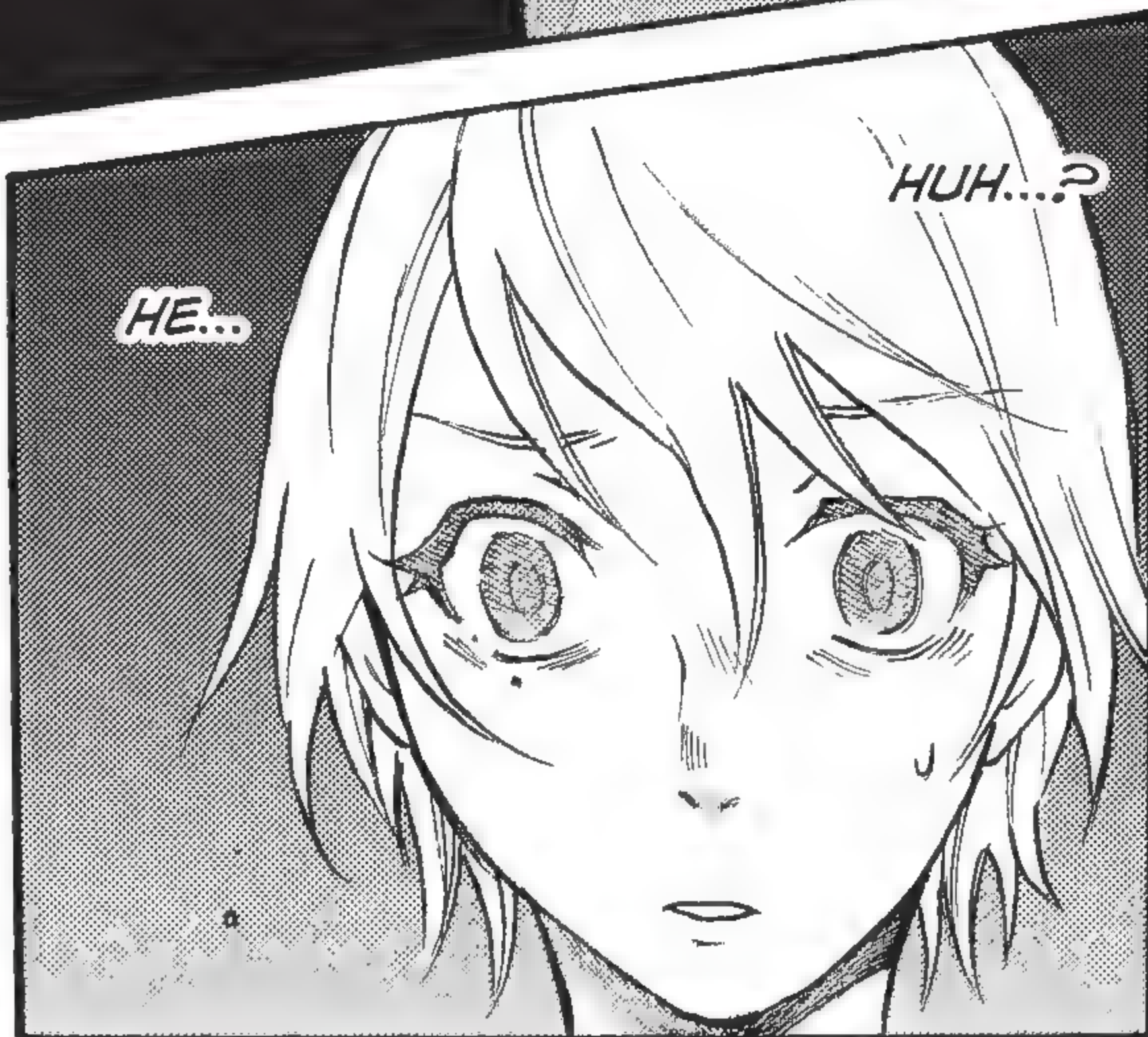
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM ...

I AM NOT!

WHAT IS WRONG WITH HIM?! WHAT A CREEP!



OH, AND ONE MORE THING.







MAKEUP
MIGHT
FOOL
SOME
PEOPLE,

BUT
NOT
ME.

PLEASE
DON'T
PLAY
DUMB
WITH ME.

CLACK



WHAT
?

THAT'S
NOT...
WHAT
PICTURE?
I DON'T
KNOW
ABOUT
ANY
PICTURE...



OR ELSE YOU
MIGHT END UP
LIKE HAYAMA-
SAN.

YOUR
TWITTER
ACCOUNT

LOOK
WHAT
FOUND

YOU
SHOULD BE
OPEN AND
HONEST
ABOUT IT.

IT'S
AWESOME

THERE'S
SO MANY

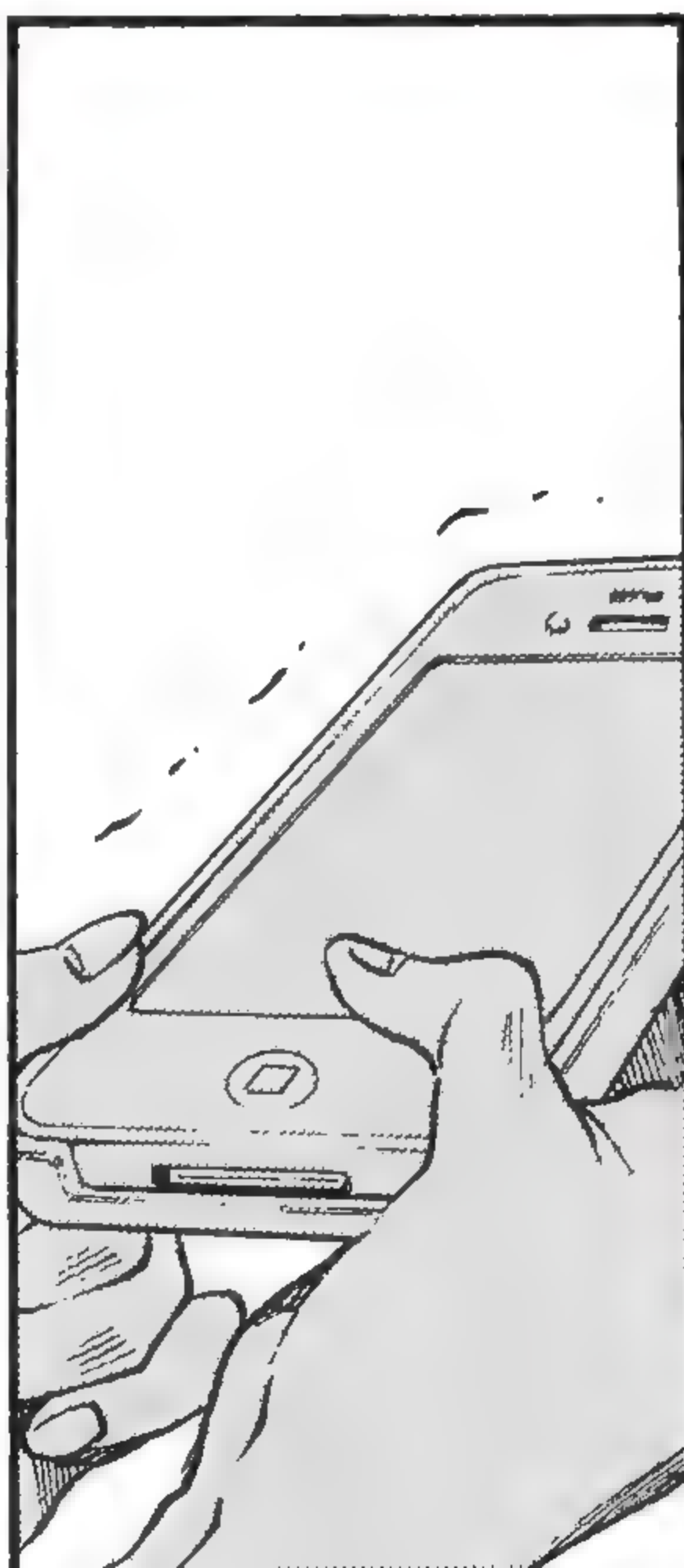


...FOR
A NICE,
LONG
TALK.

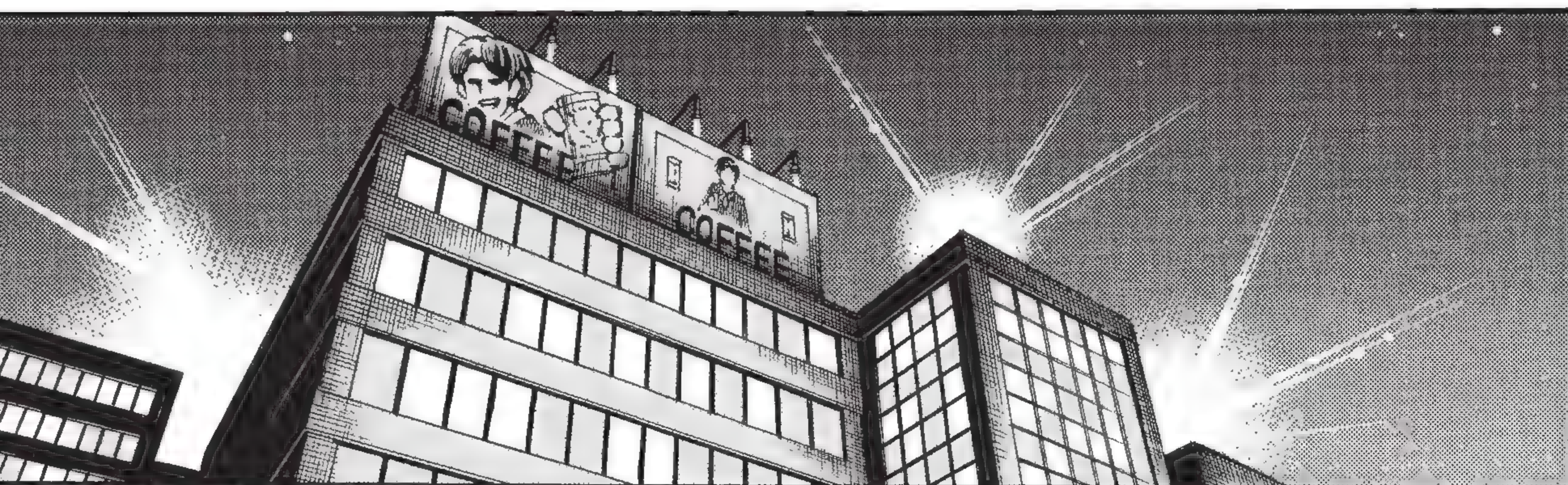


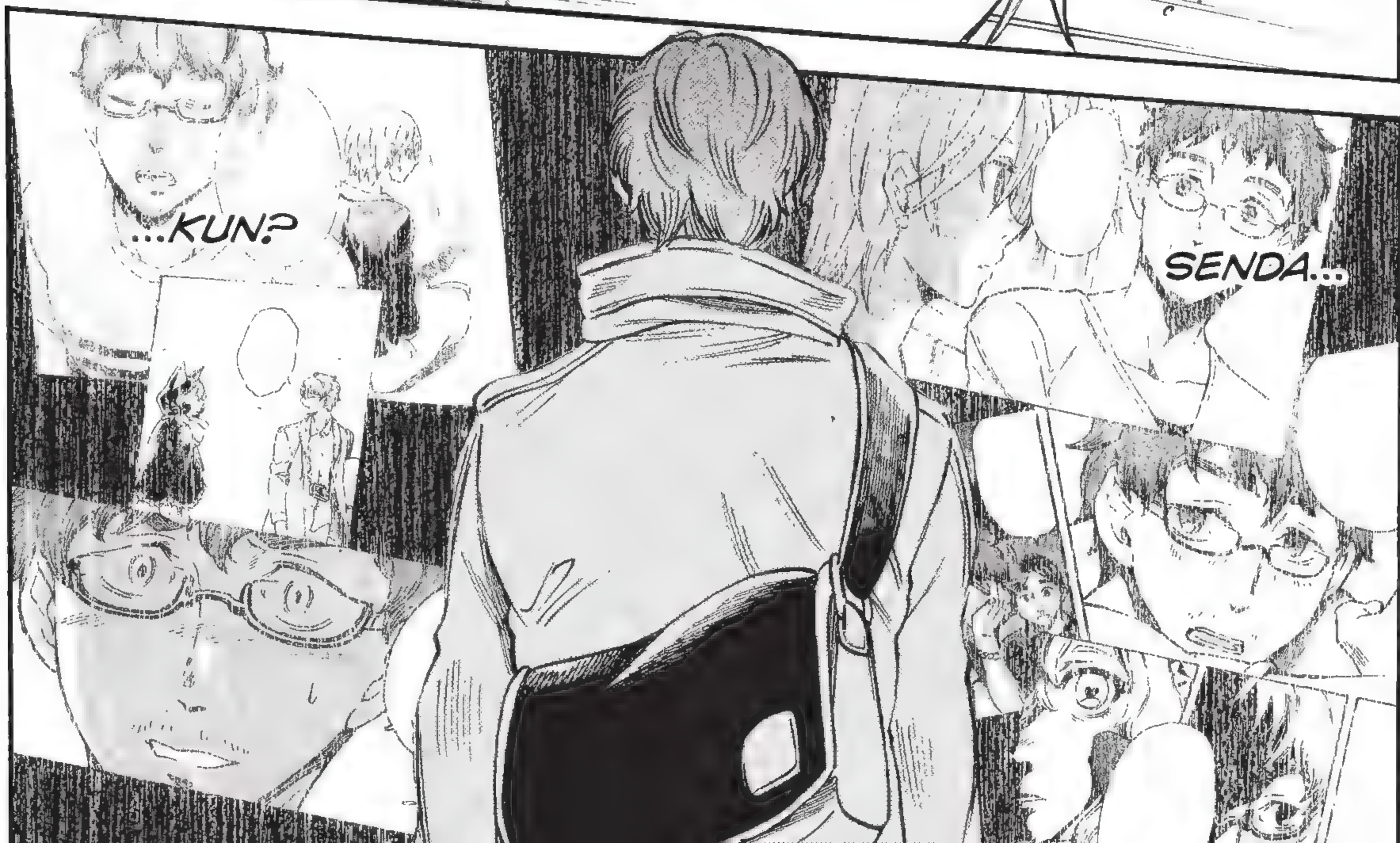
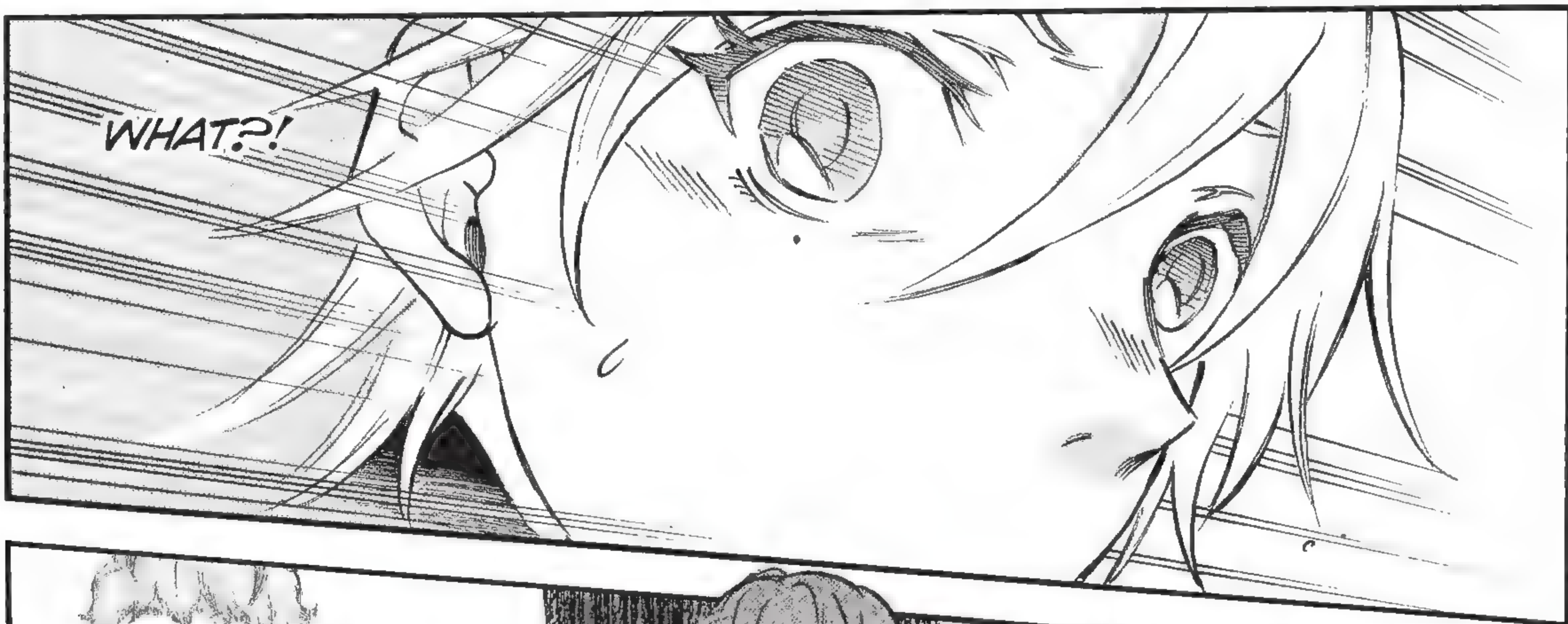
WELL,
THIS
ISN'T
THE
BEST
PLACE
TO
TALK.

LET'S
MEET
LATER...











n.36 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.37

THERE I
GO AGAIN!!
TO BE
ACCURATE,
MY
ASSISTANT
DREW IT!
THANK YOU!

IT'S IN TOKYO
IN THE MANGA,
BUT I DREW IT
BASED ON MY
ALMA MATER,
SENDAI HIGH
SCHOOL.

NAGISA
AND
KIMIKO
WENT
TO NIAN
HIGH
SCHOOL.

DANG DONG DING

SENDAI
HIGH
SCHOOL.

NOT THAT
ANYBODY
CARES, BUT
MY FATHER
WENT
TO THIS
SCHOOL,
TOO.

OF COURSE, IN
MY CASE, I ONLY
HAD ABOUT THREE
VARIATIONS
OF PERSONAL
FASHION. (DARK
HISTORY)

THE SCHOOL
MOTTO WAS
"INDEPEN-
DENCE AND
SELF-RELI-
ANCE,"
SO THE
STUDENTS
DIDN'T
WEAR
UNIFORMS
TO SCHOOL.

WE HAD AN
ASTRONOMI-
CAL OBSER-
VATORY ON
THE ROOF.

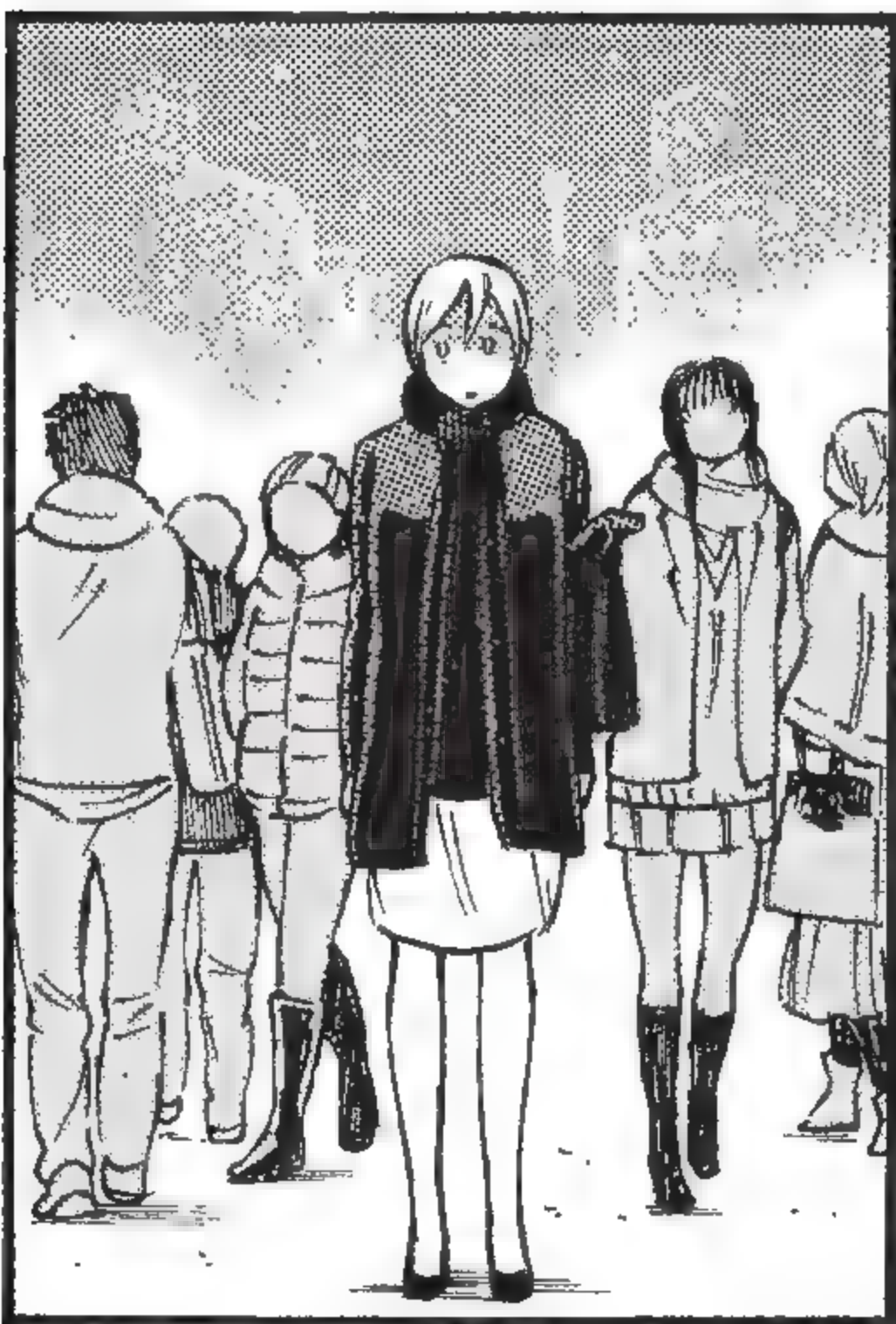
YODHOD!

WE DID
A LOT OF
UNEXCITING
THINGS LIKE
LOOKING AT
THE STARS
AND GOING
TO COLLECT
ROCKS,
BUT IT WAS
RIDICULOUSLY
FUN!

FOR CLUBS,
I WAS IN
BOTH THE
ART CLUB
AND THE
ASTRONOMY
AND EARTH
SCIENCE
CLUB.

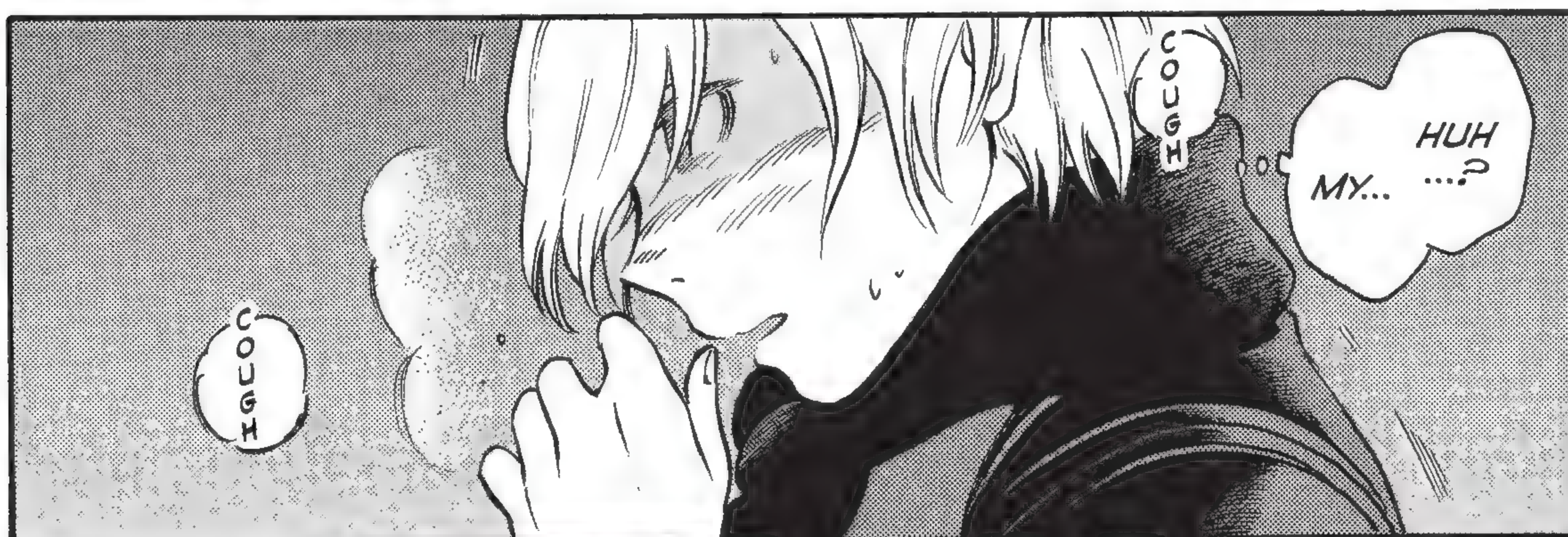
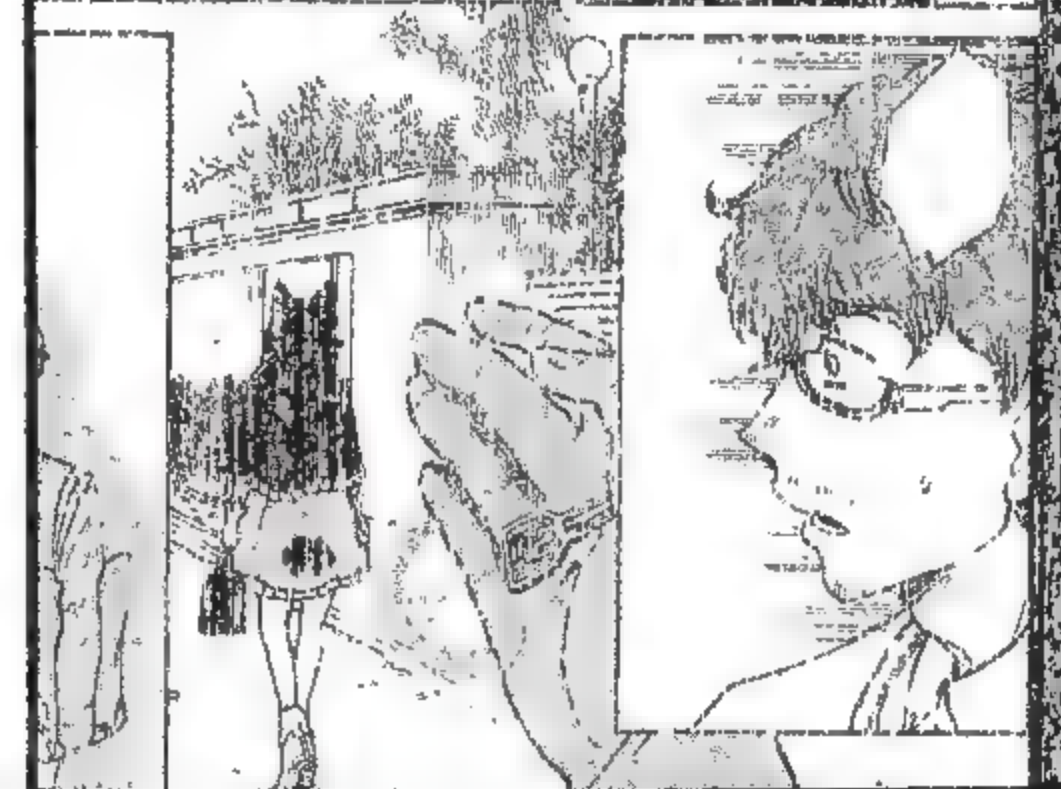
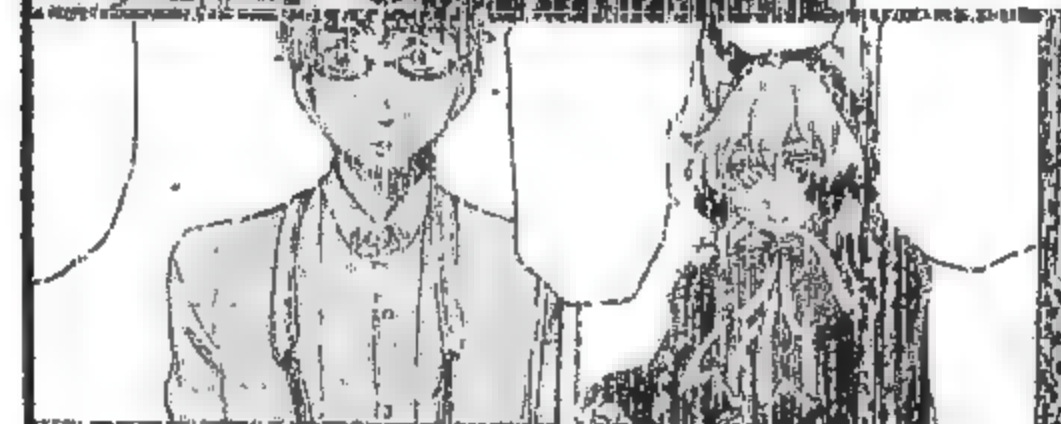
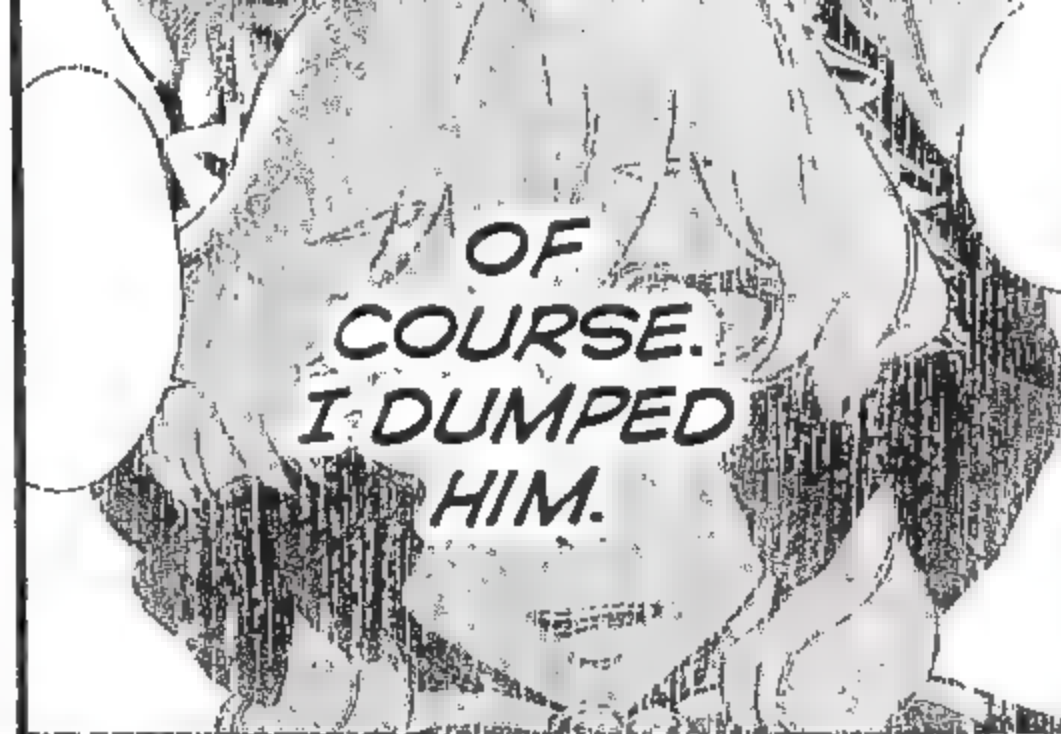
STUDENTS
WERE
PROHIBITED
FROM GOING
ON THE ROOF,
BUT THE EARTH
SCIENCE CLUB
MEMBERS
HAD SPECIAL
PERMISSION.

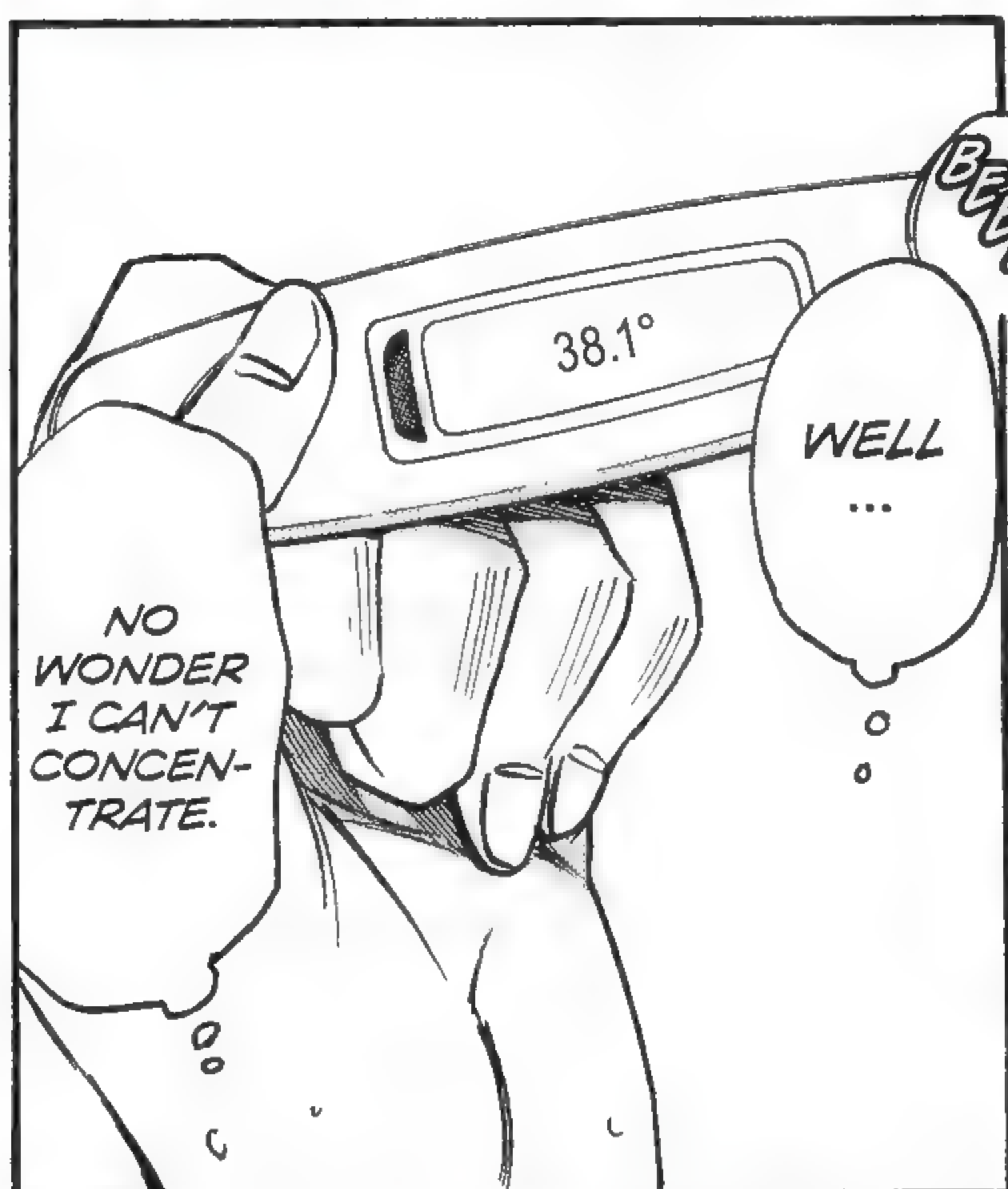
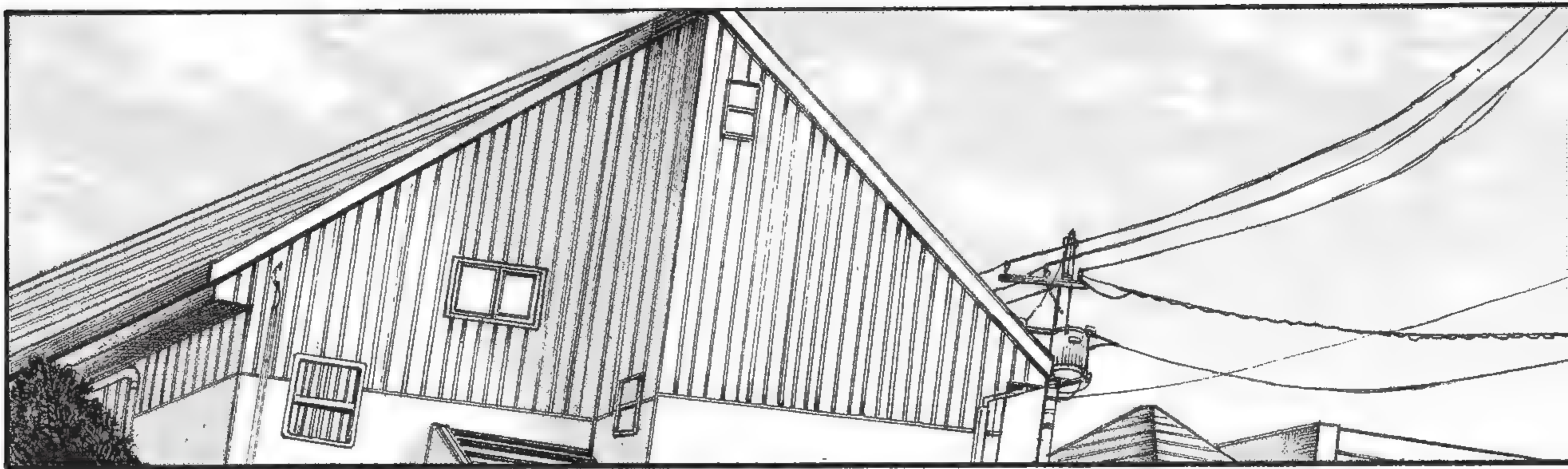






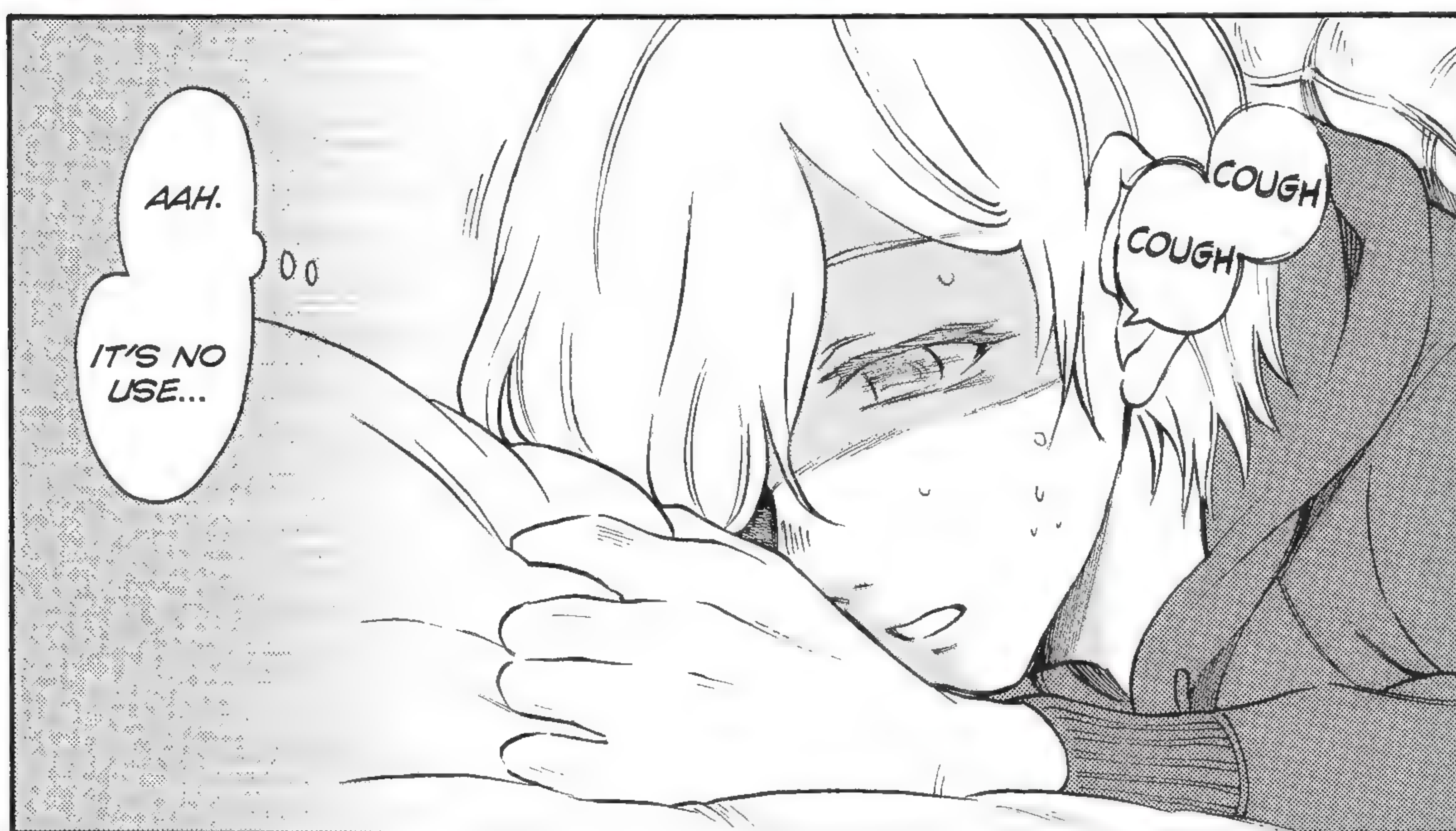
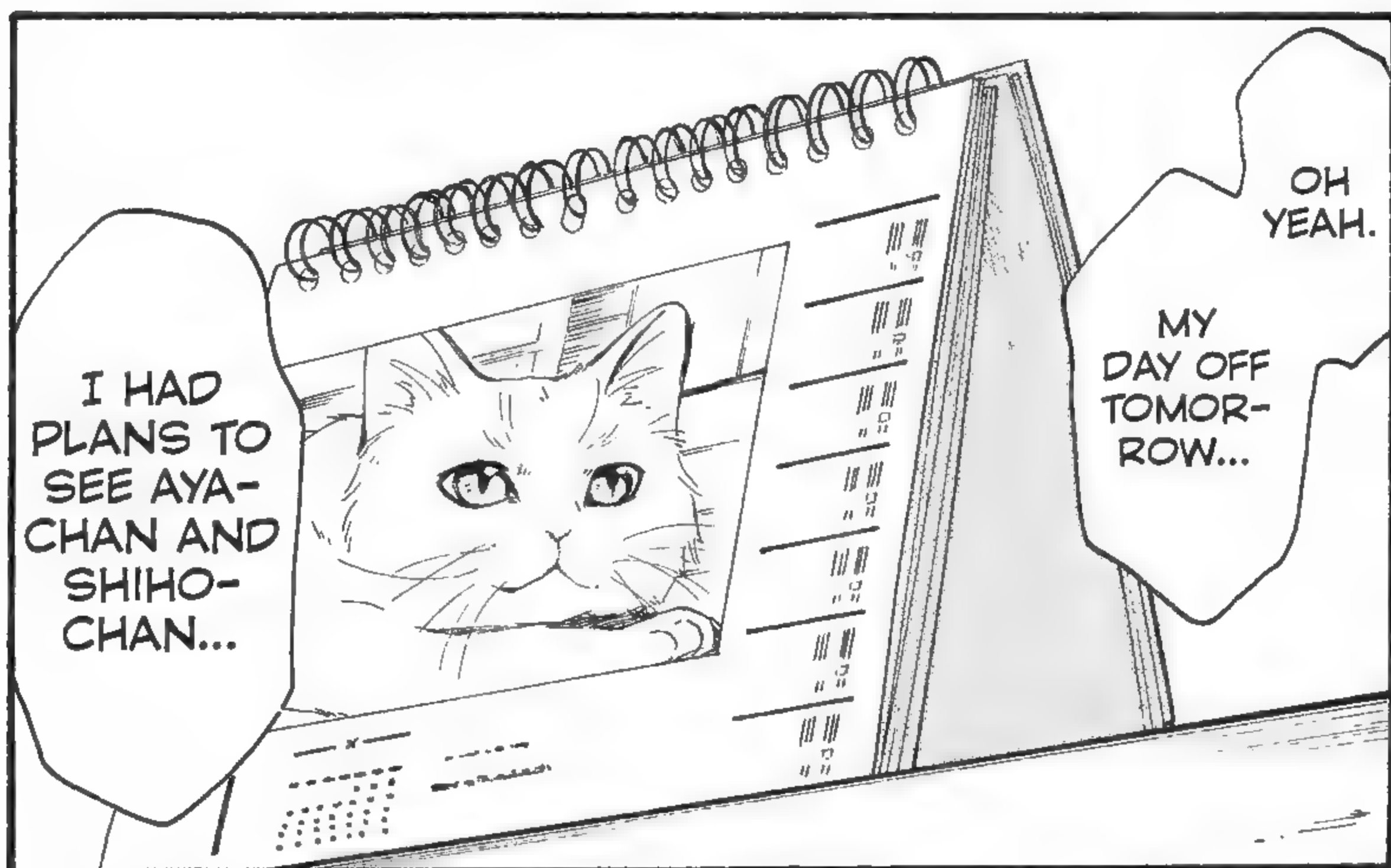
WHAT
COULD I
POSSIBLY
TALK TO
HIM ABOUT
NOW?

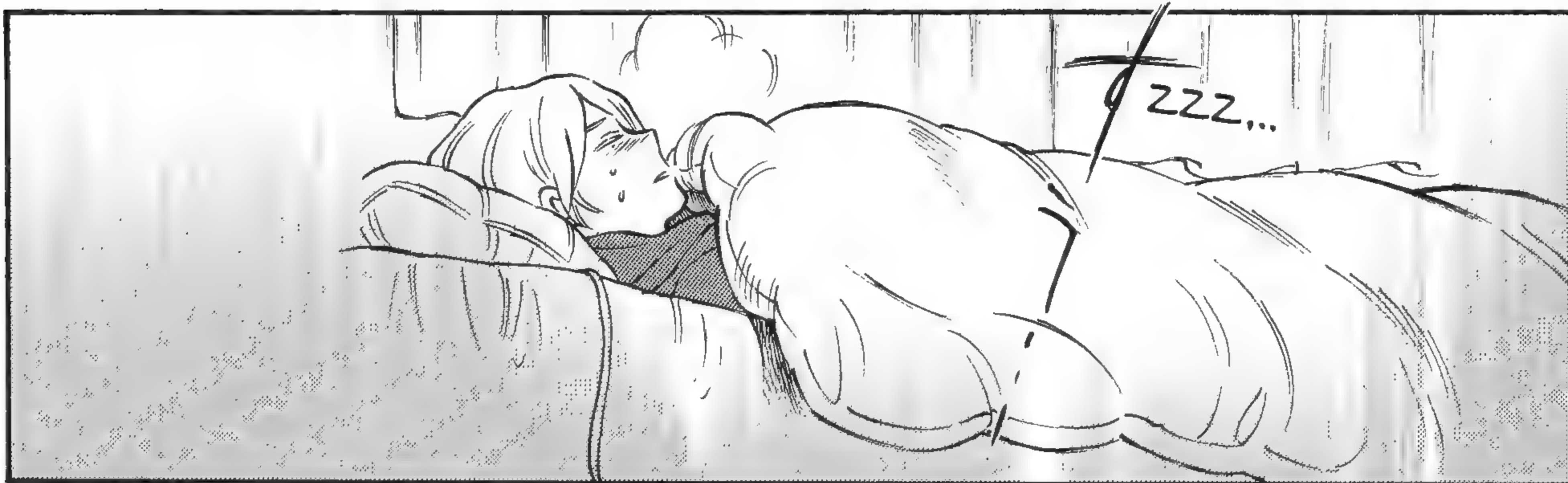
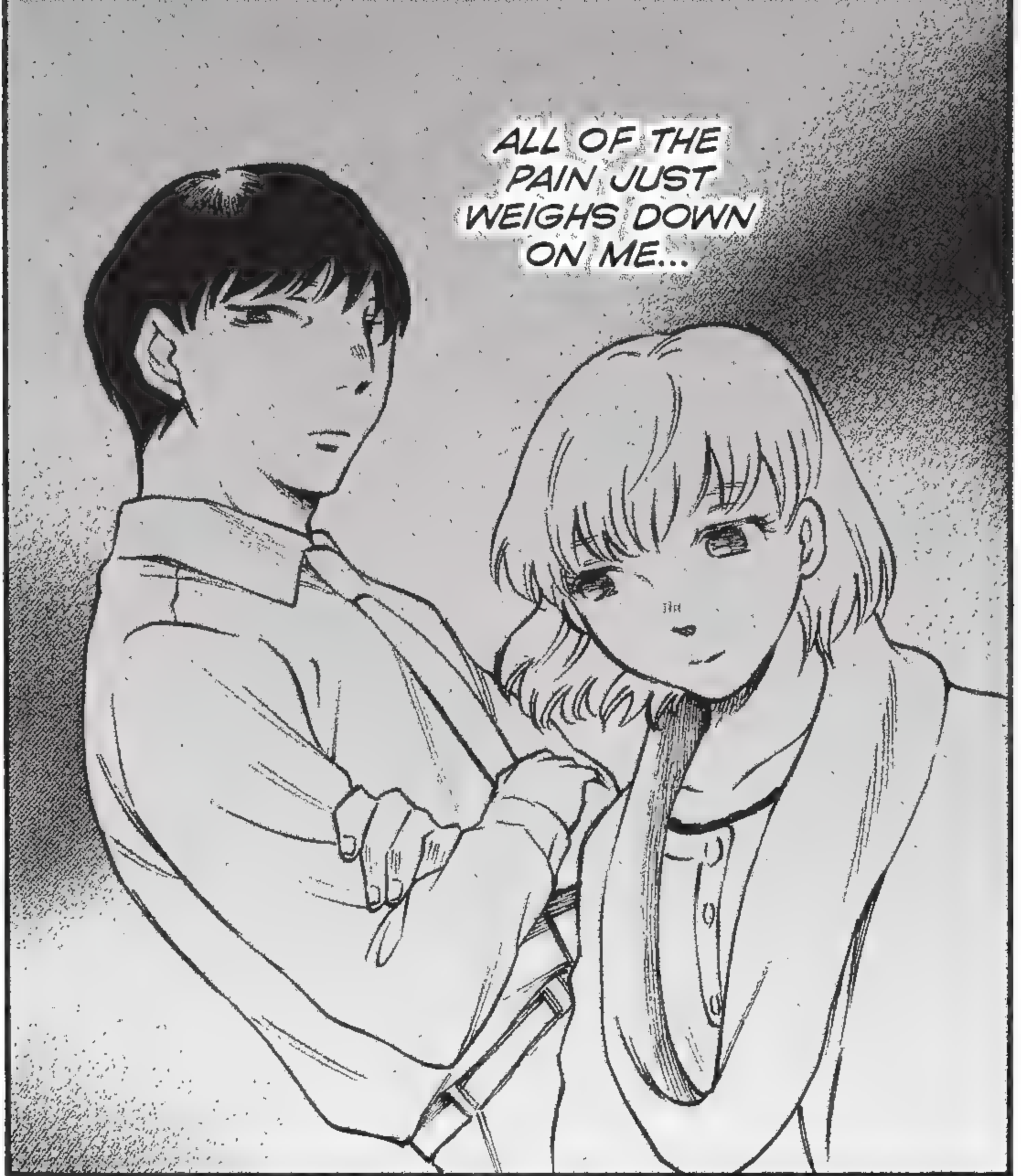




Note: 38.1°C is 100.6°F.

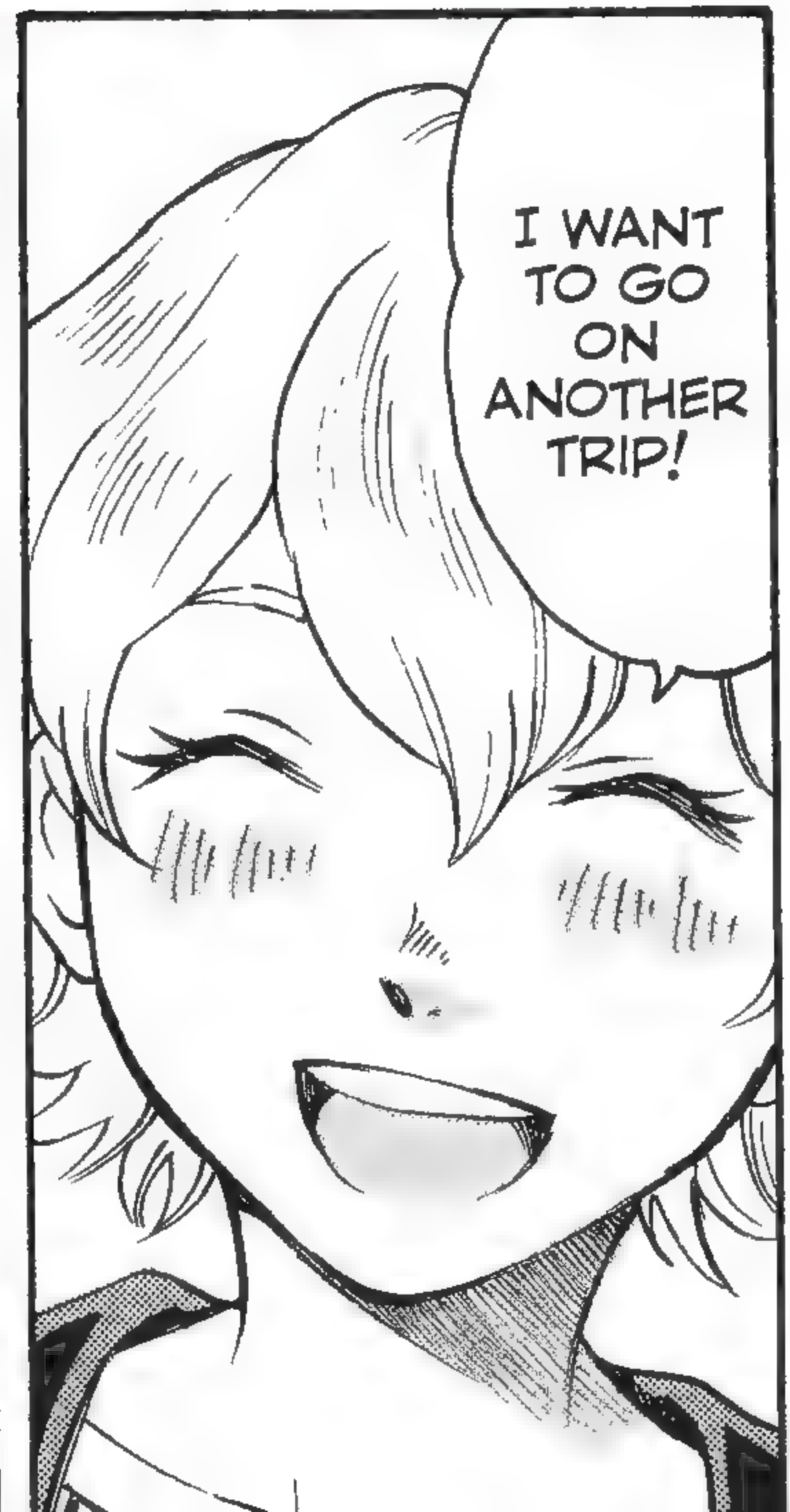
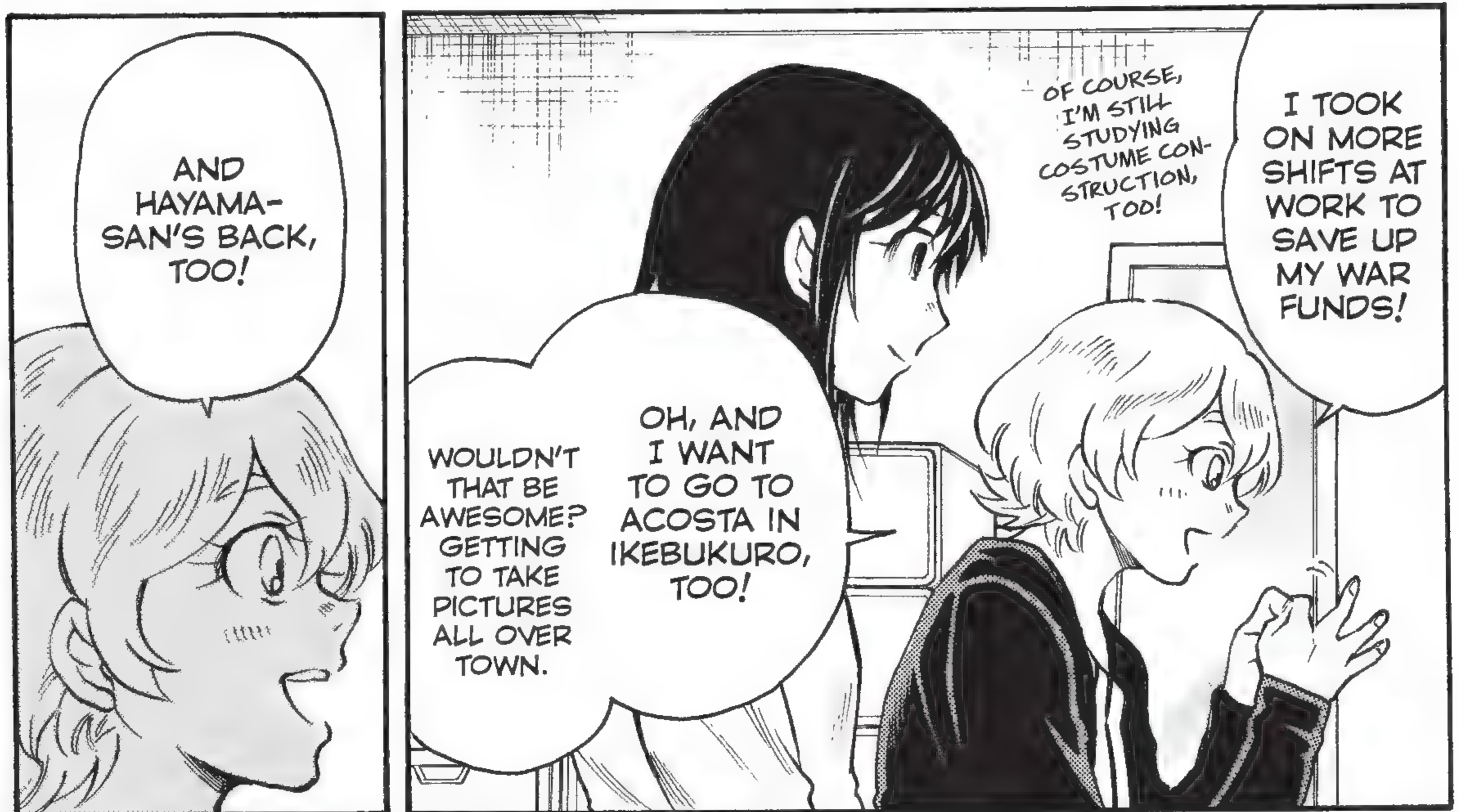






Three hours later...







IT'S LIKE
THERE'S
NEVER
GOING TO
BE ENOUGH
TIME!

WHEN I
THINK THAT
SOME OF
THESE
THINGS ARE
THINGS I
CAN ONLY
DO NOW,
I JUST
CAN'T
SIT
STILL.

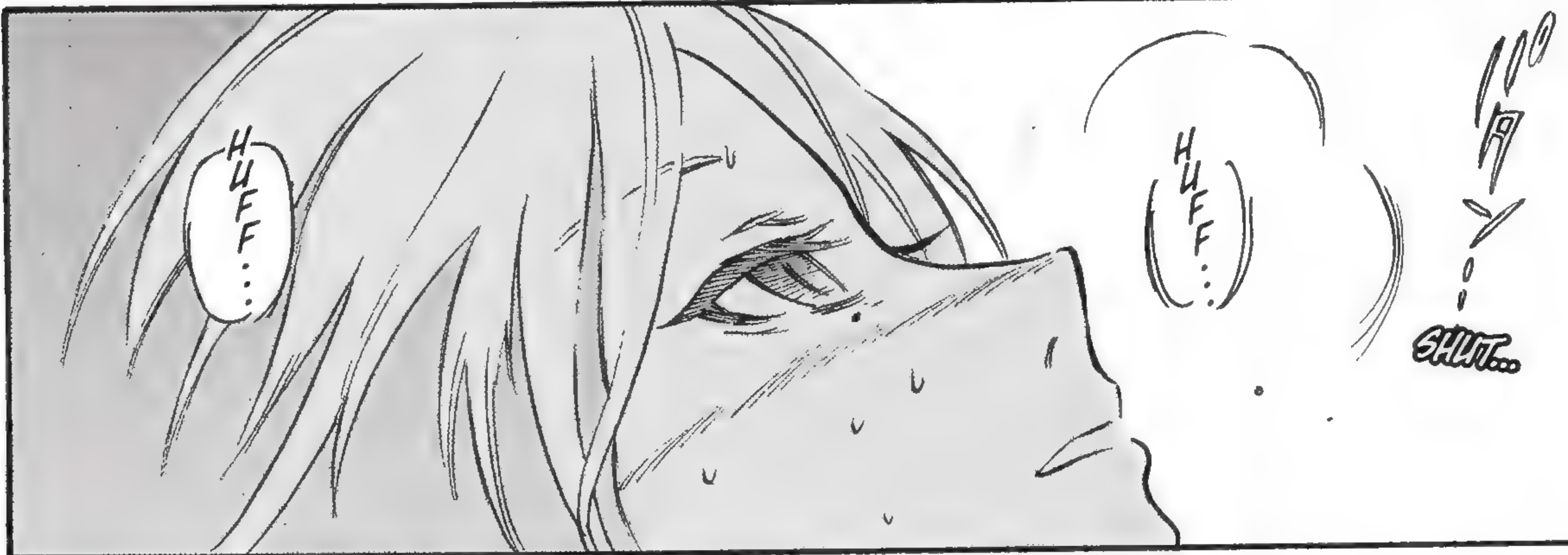
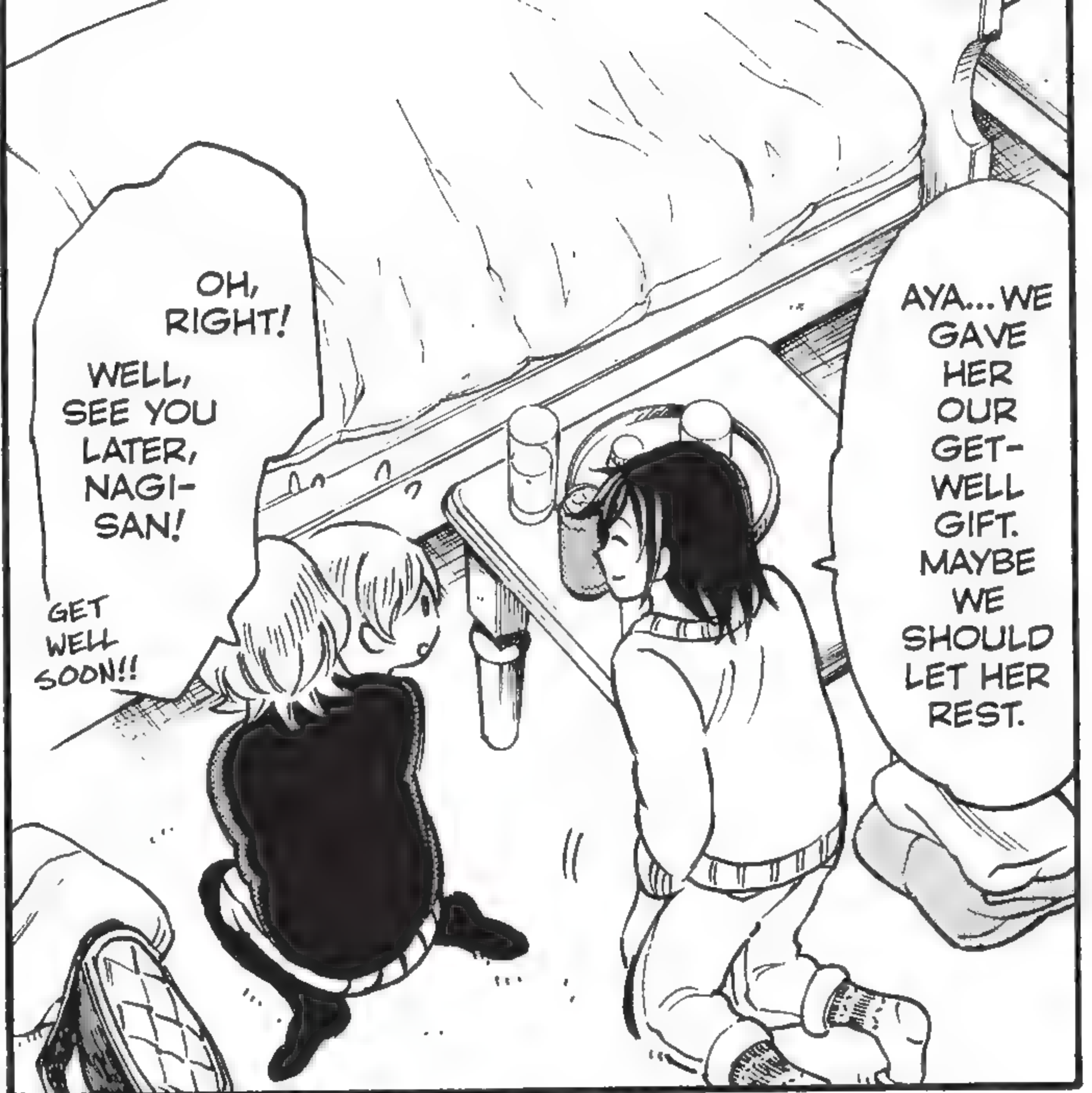


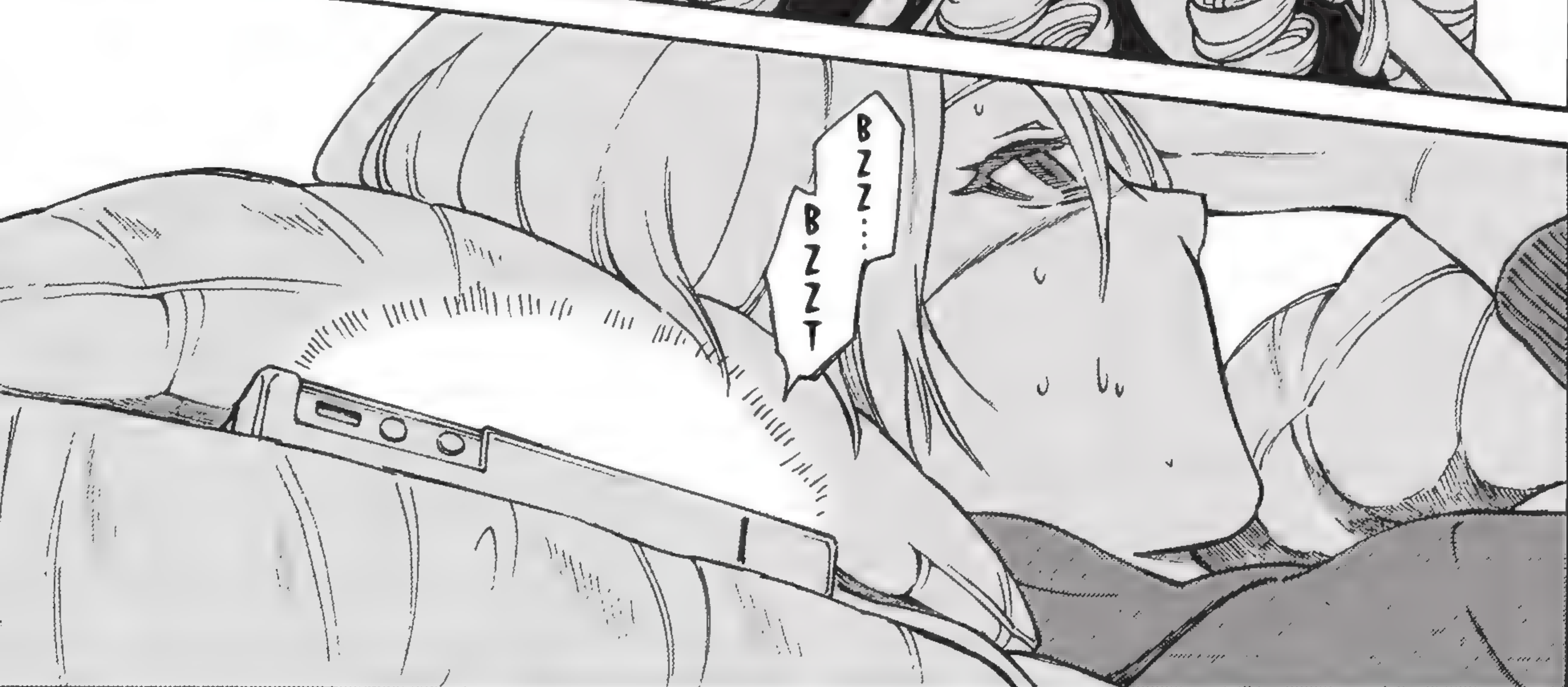
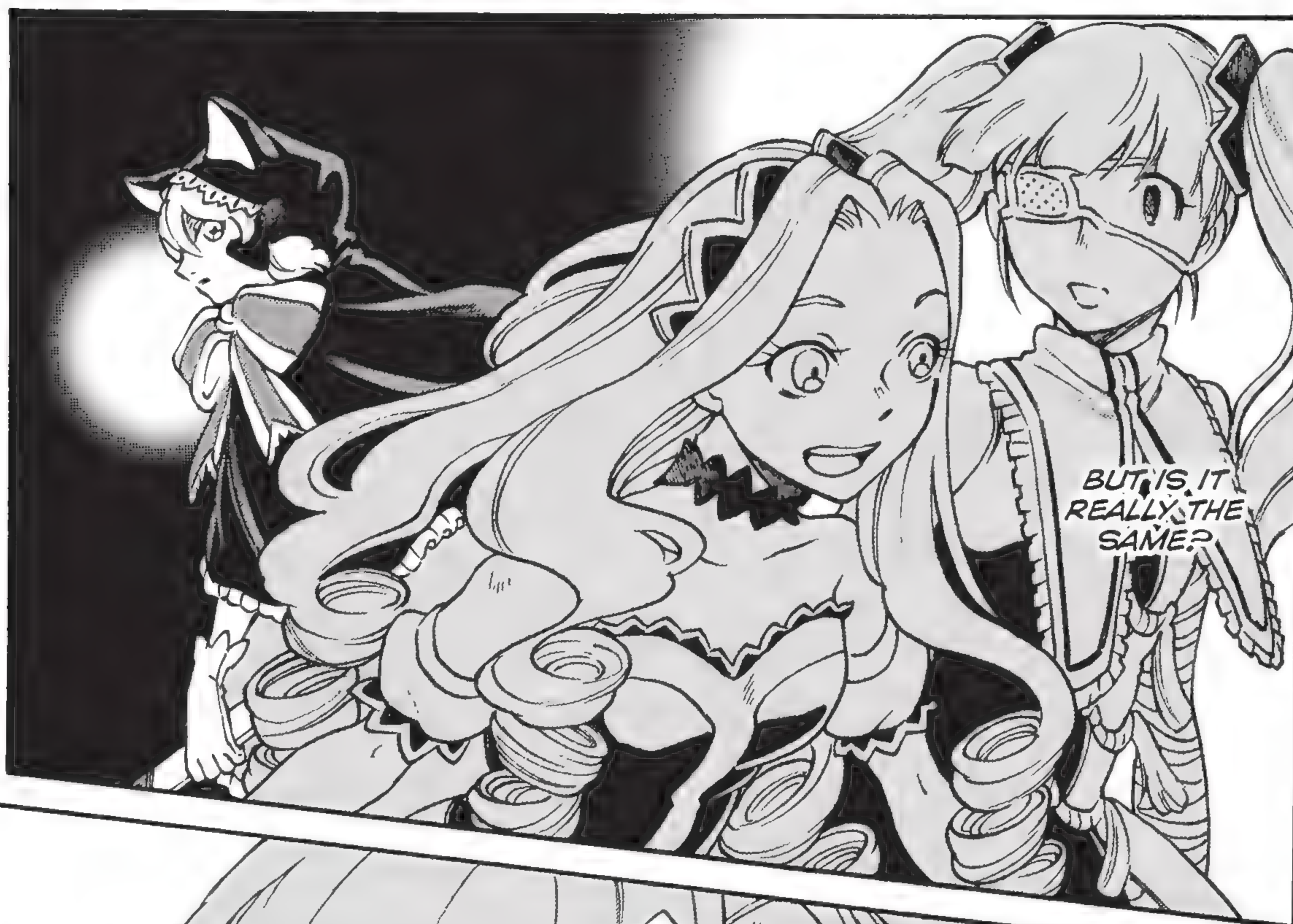
OH, UH, OF
COURSE!
PLEASE,
MAKE YOUR-
SELF COM-
FORTABLE!

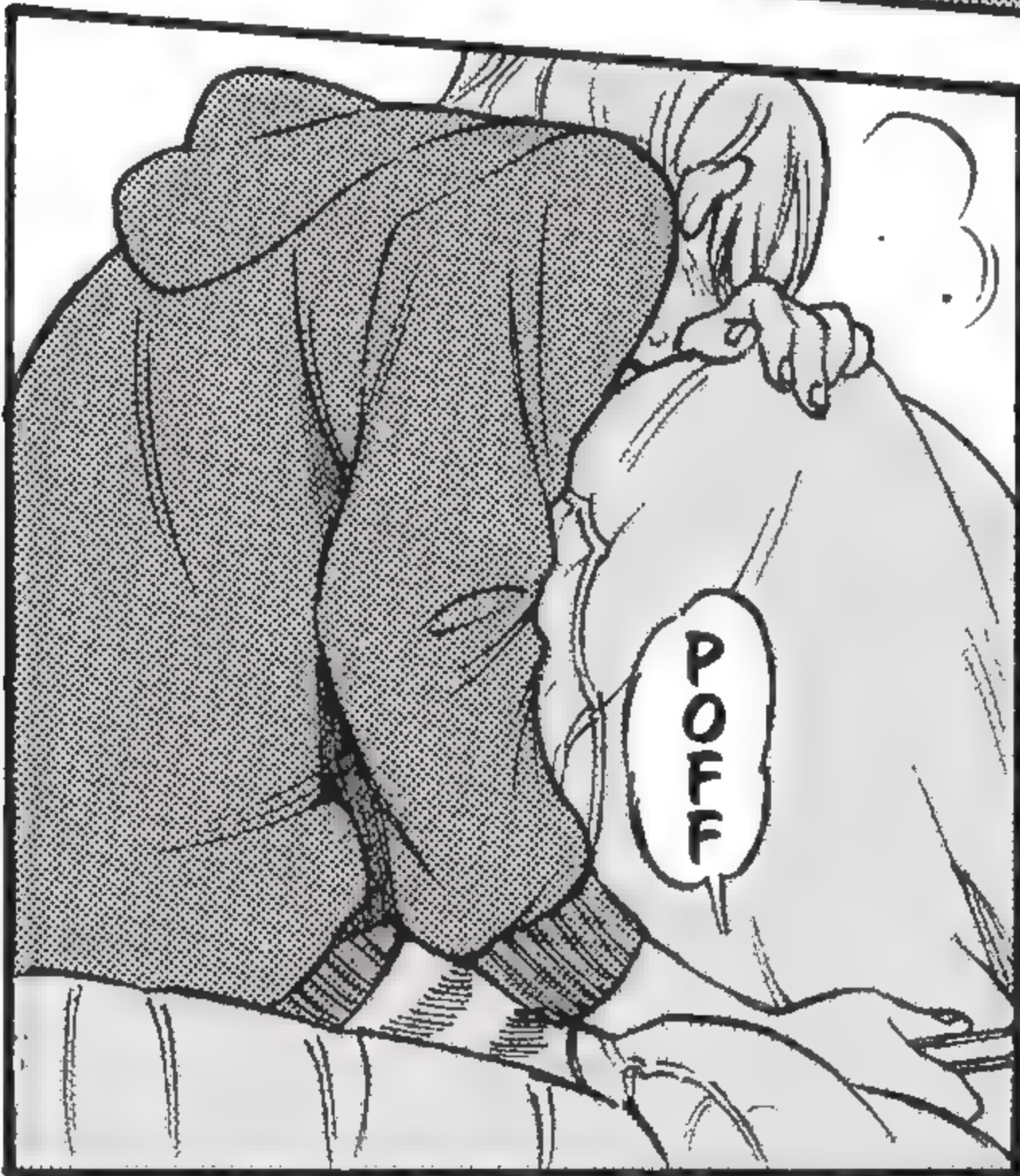
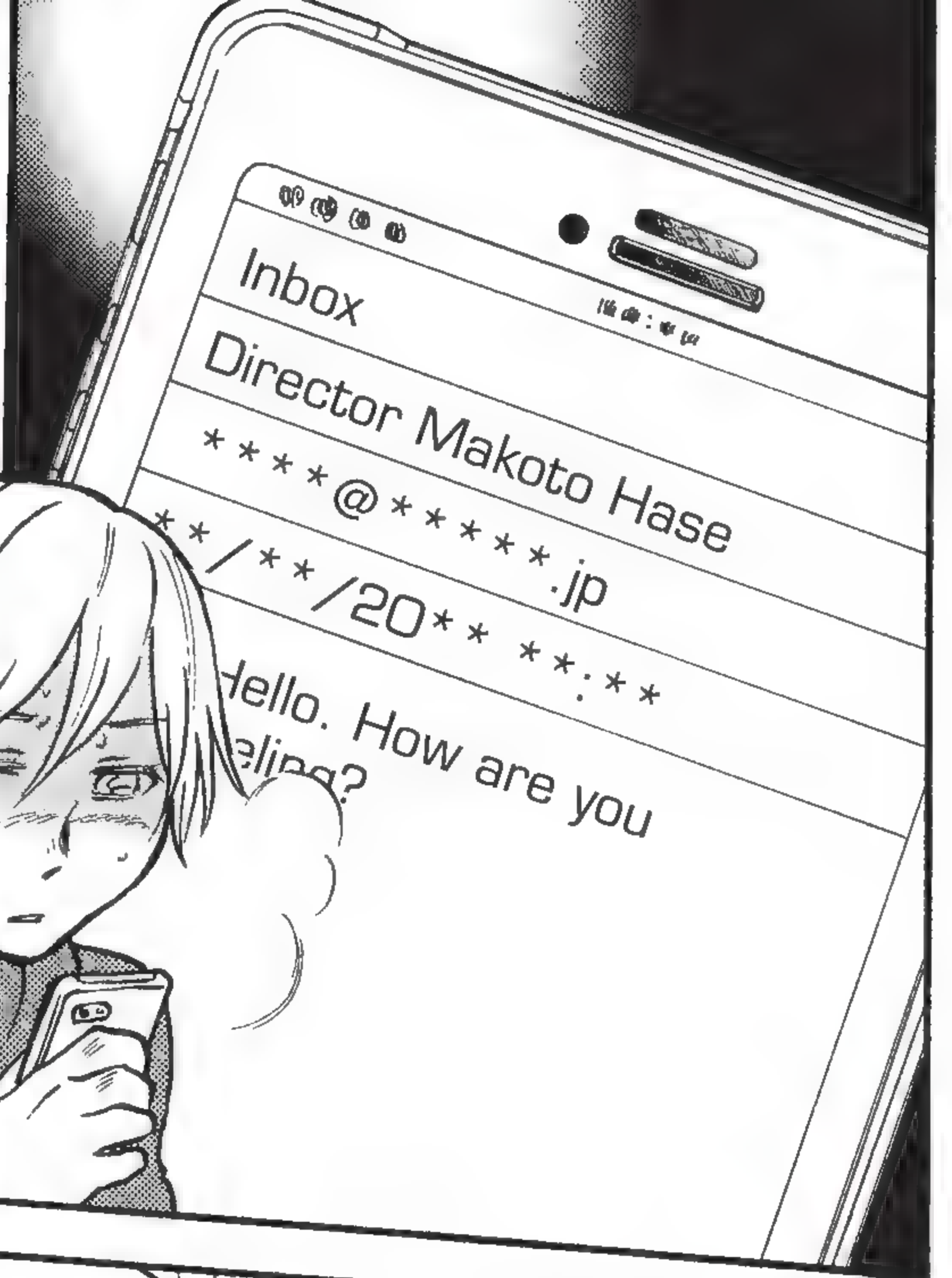


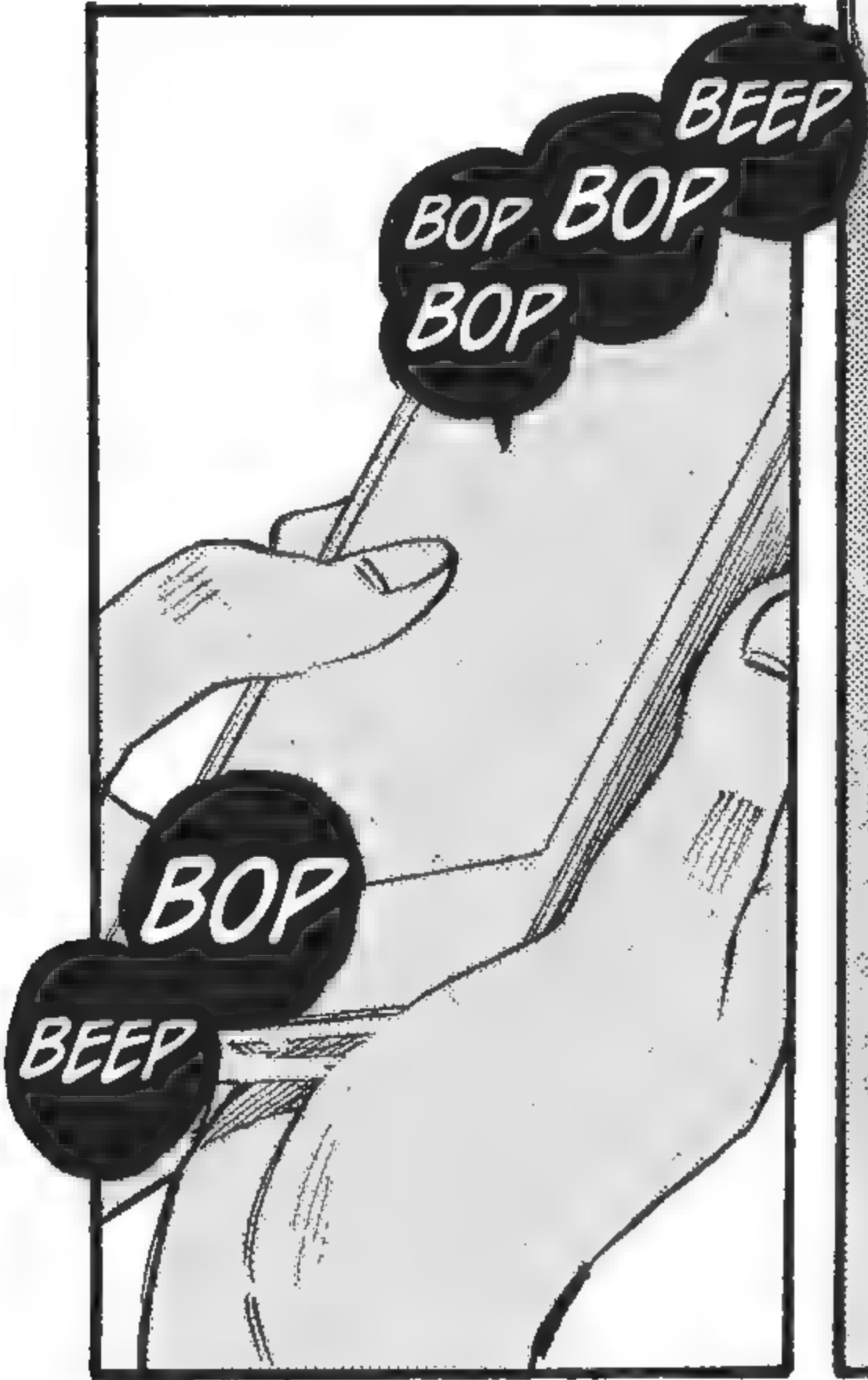
I'M
SORRY.
DO YOU
MIND IF I
LIE DOWN
WHILE WE
TALK?

YEAH
...



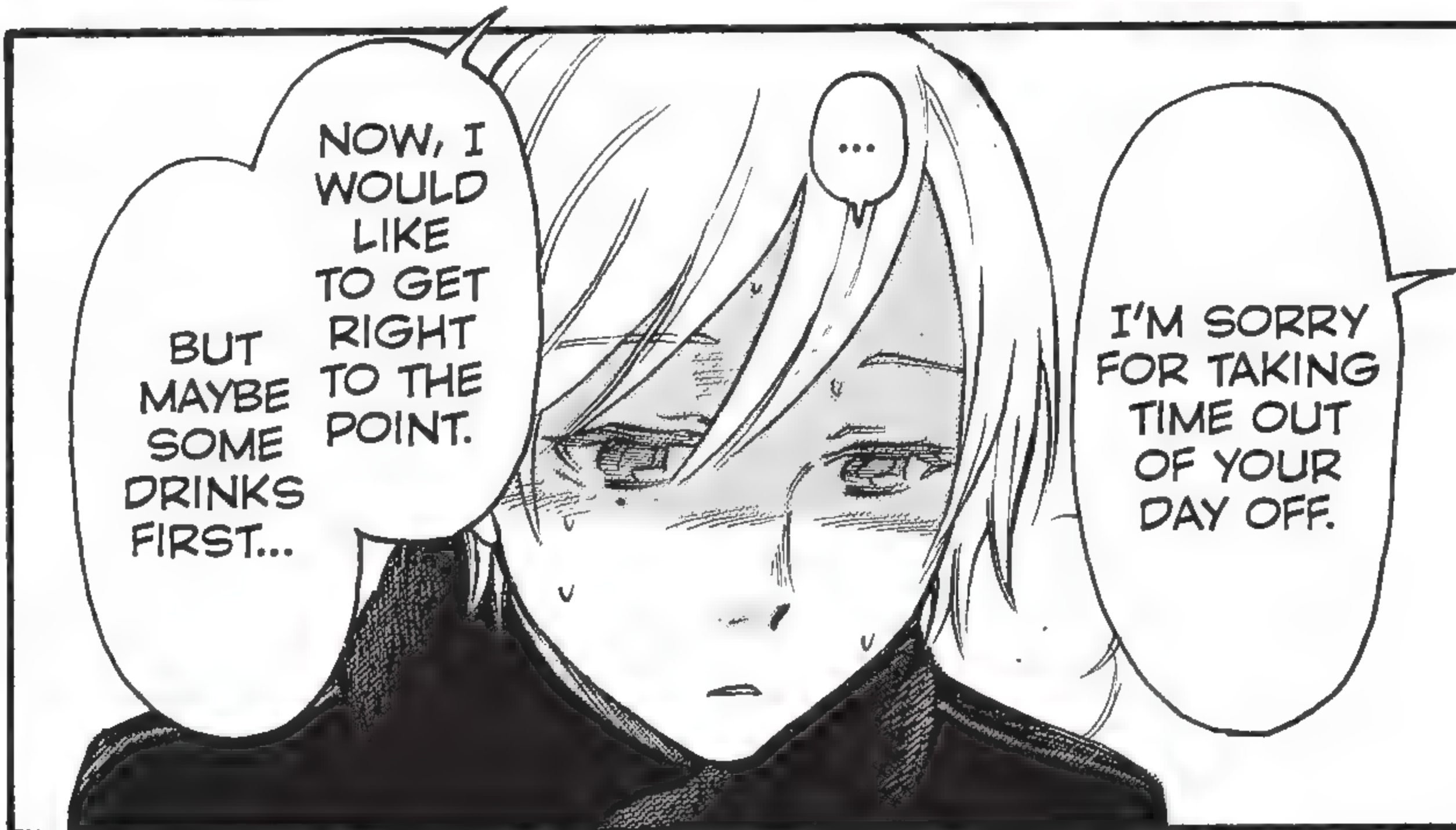


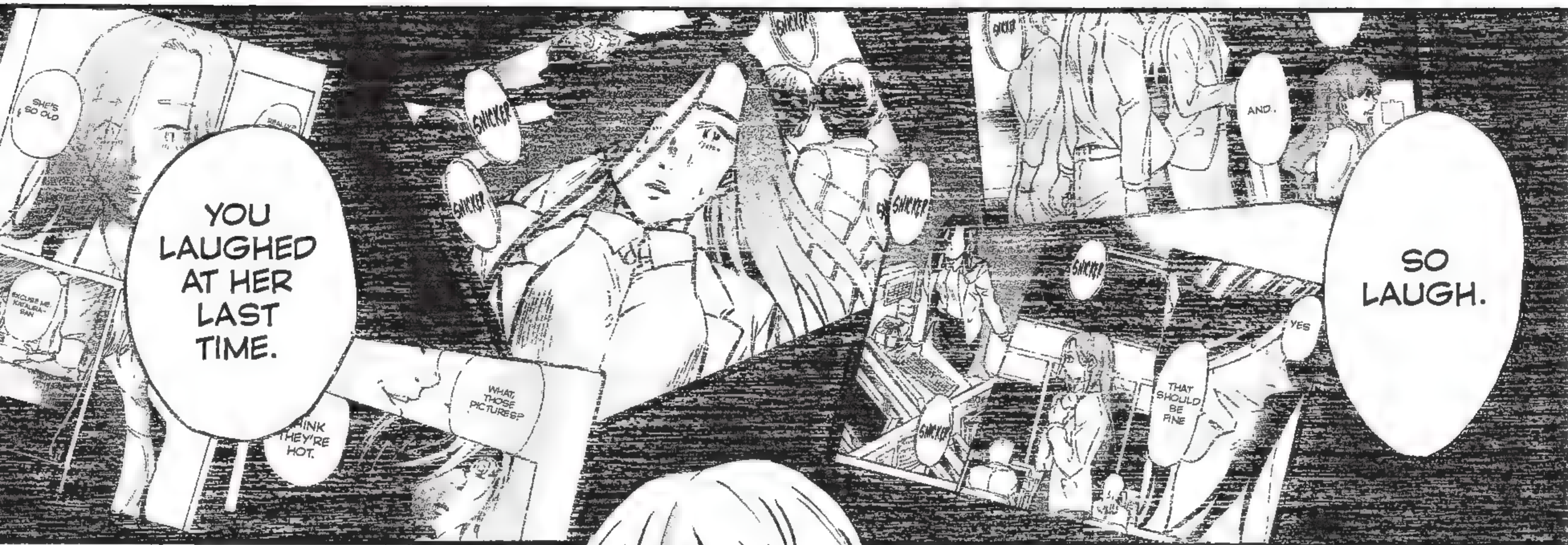




Hello. I understand. Tomorrow is my day off, but I can meet you in the evening. See you then.
Kataura







YOU
LAUGHED
AT HER
LAST
TIME.

SO
LAUGH.



NOW YOU
CAN LAUGH
AT ME.

SQUEEZE...

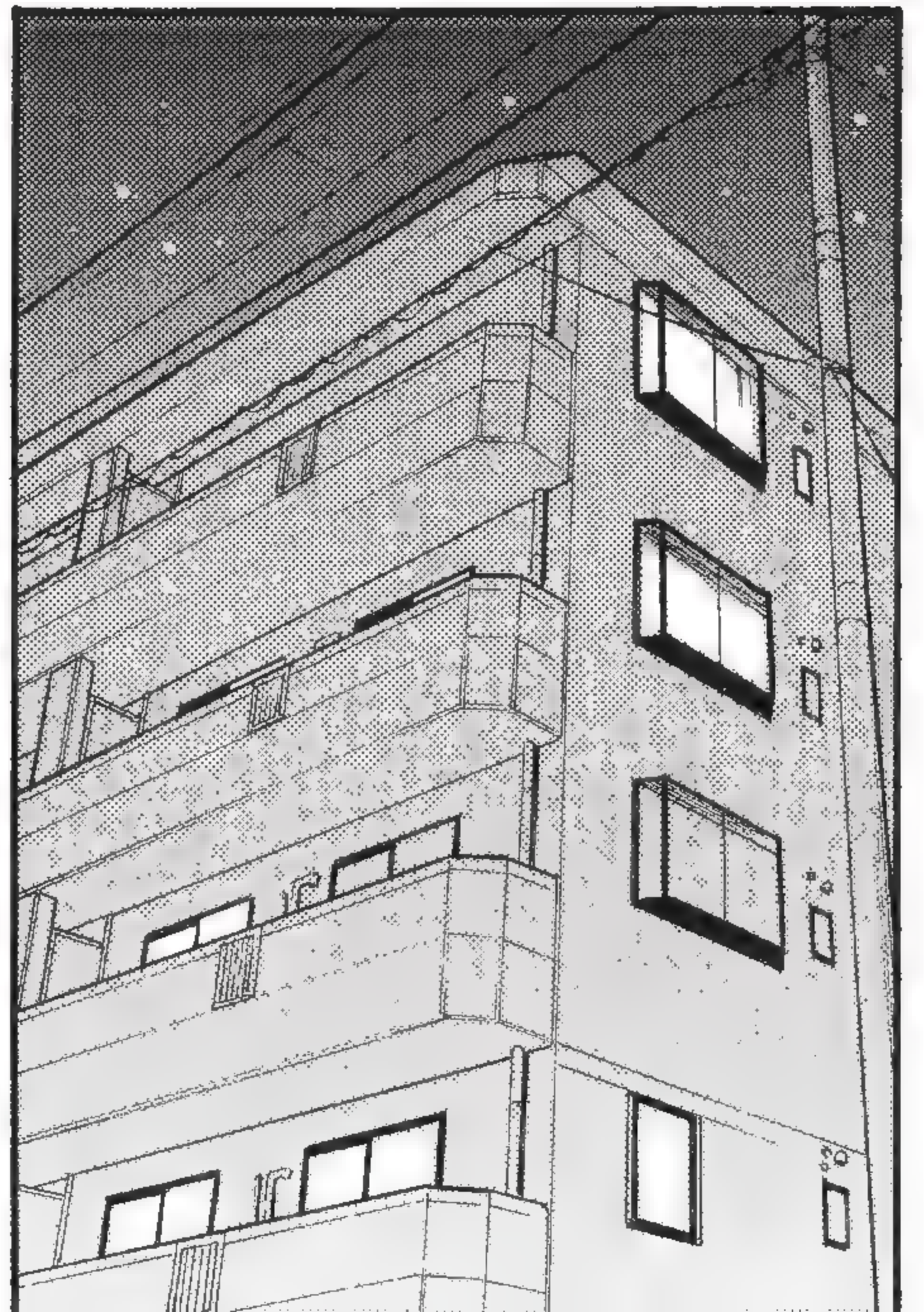
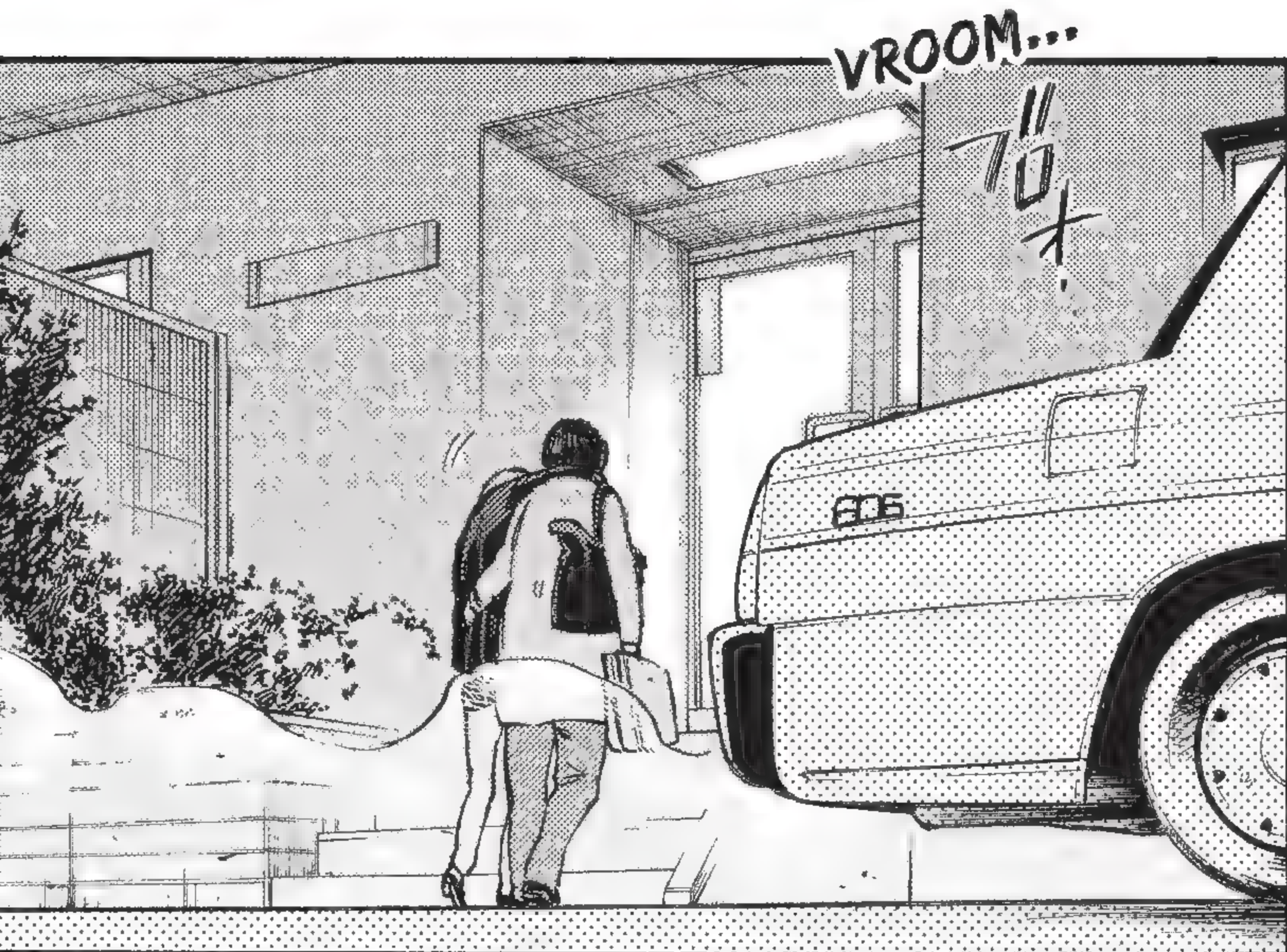
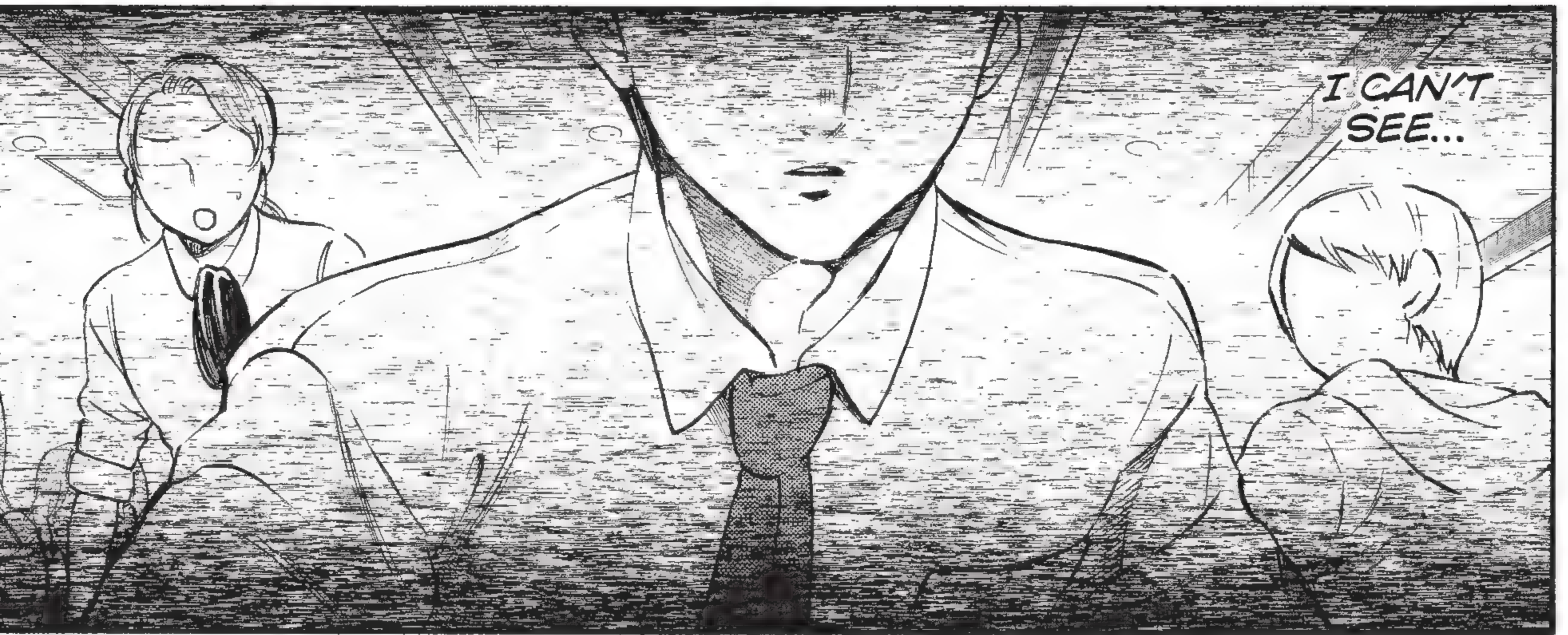


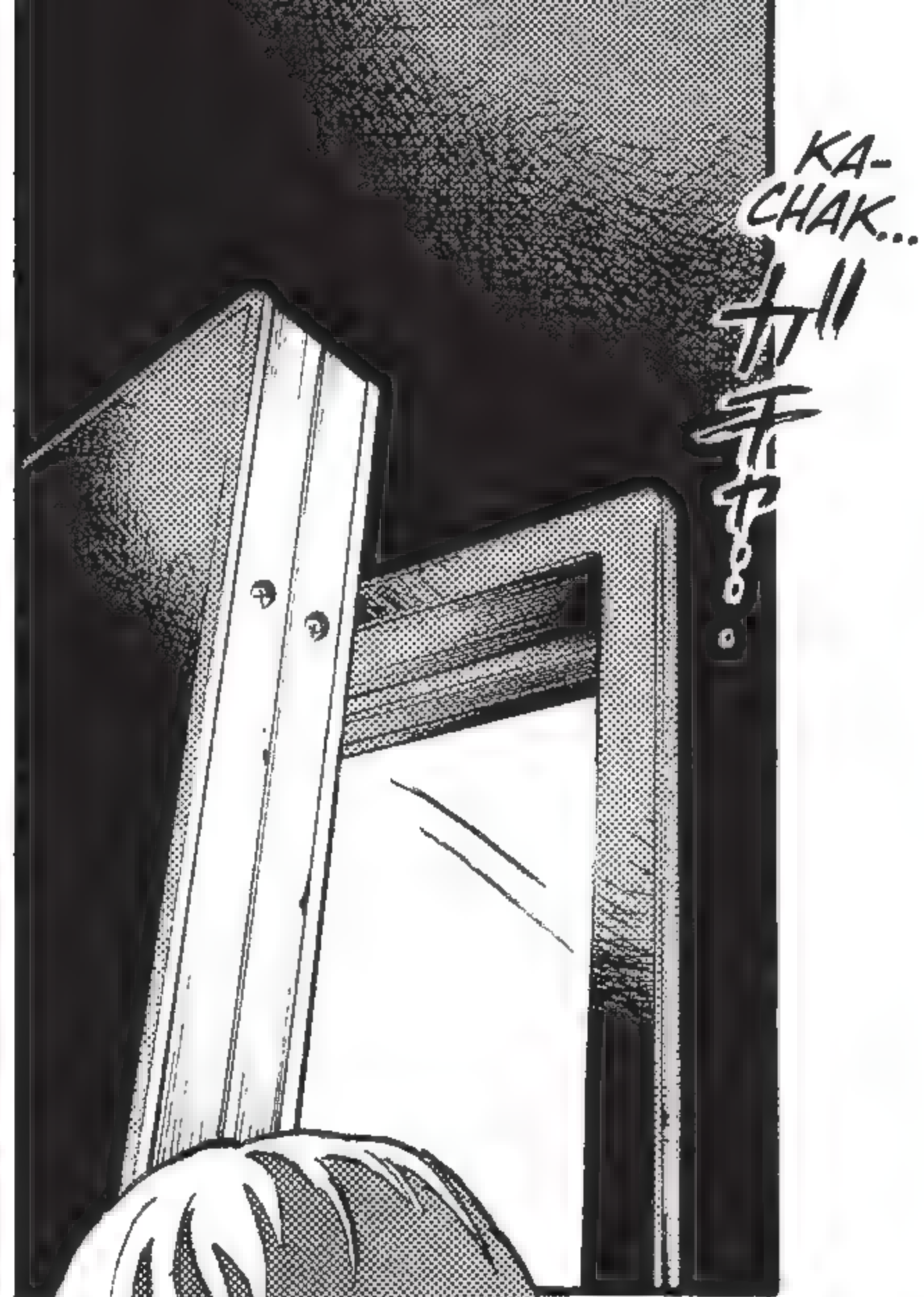
BUT...

AND I
APOLOGIZE
FOR THAT.

I AM
TRULY AND
SINCERELY
SORRY
ABOUT THE
MESS I
MADE TWO
DAYS AGO.







WELL...
WHATEVER.



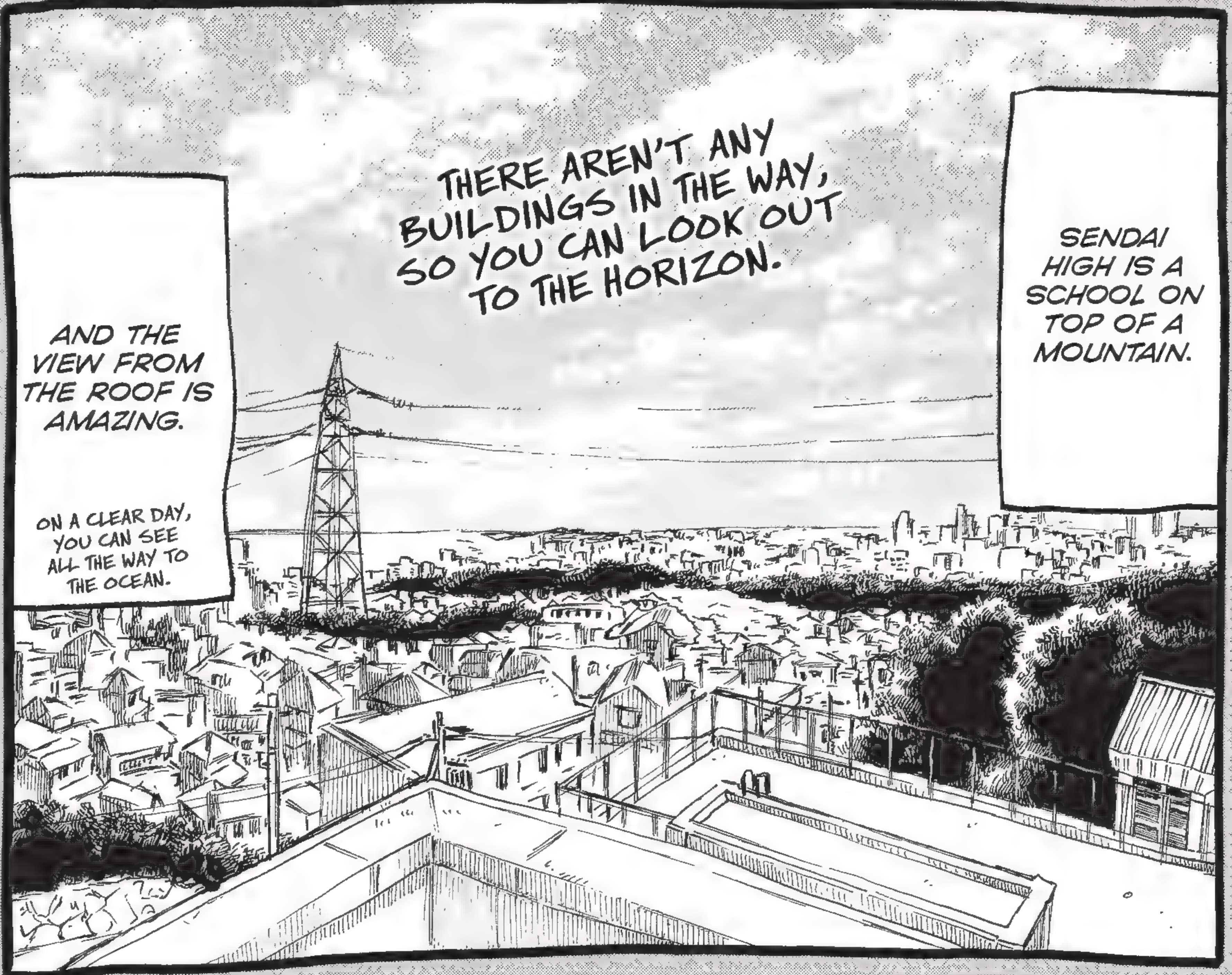
n.37 >>>>>> n.38

THERE AREN'T ANY
BUILDINGS IN THE WAY,
SO YOU CAN LOOK OUT
TO THE HORIZON.

AND THE
VIEW FROM
THE ROOF IS
AMAZING.

ON A CLEAR DAY,
YOU CAN SEE
ALL THE WAY TO
THE OCEAN.

SENDAI
HIGH IS A
SCHOOL ON
TOP OF A
MOUNTAIN.



I'M
SORRY.

I REALLY
REGRET THAT
NOW.

NOT ART.
I DREW
MANGA.

HUH?
WHAT
DID I
DO IN
ART
CLUB?

HEH

HEH

HEH

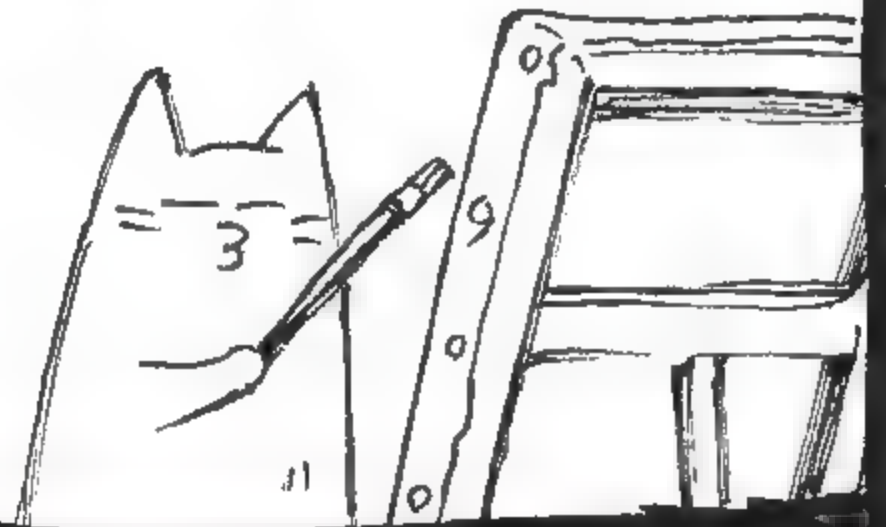
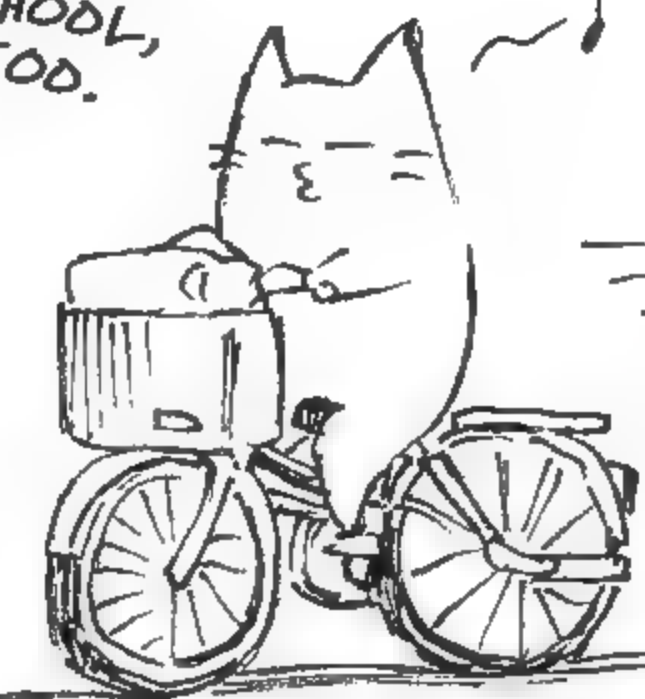
HEH

HEH...

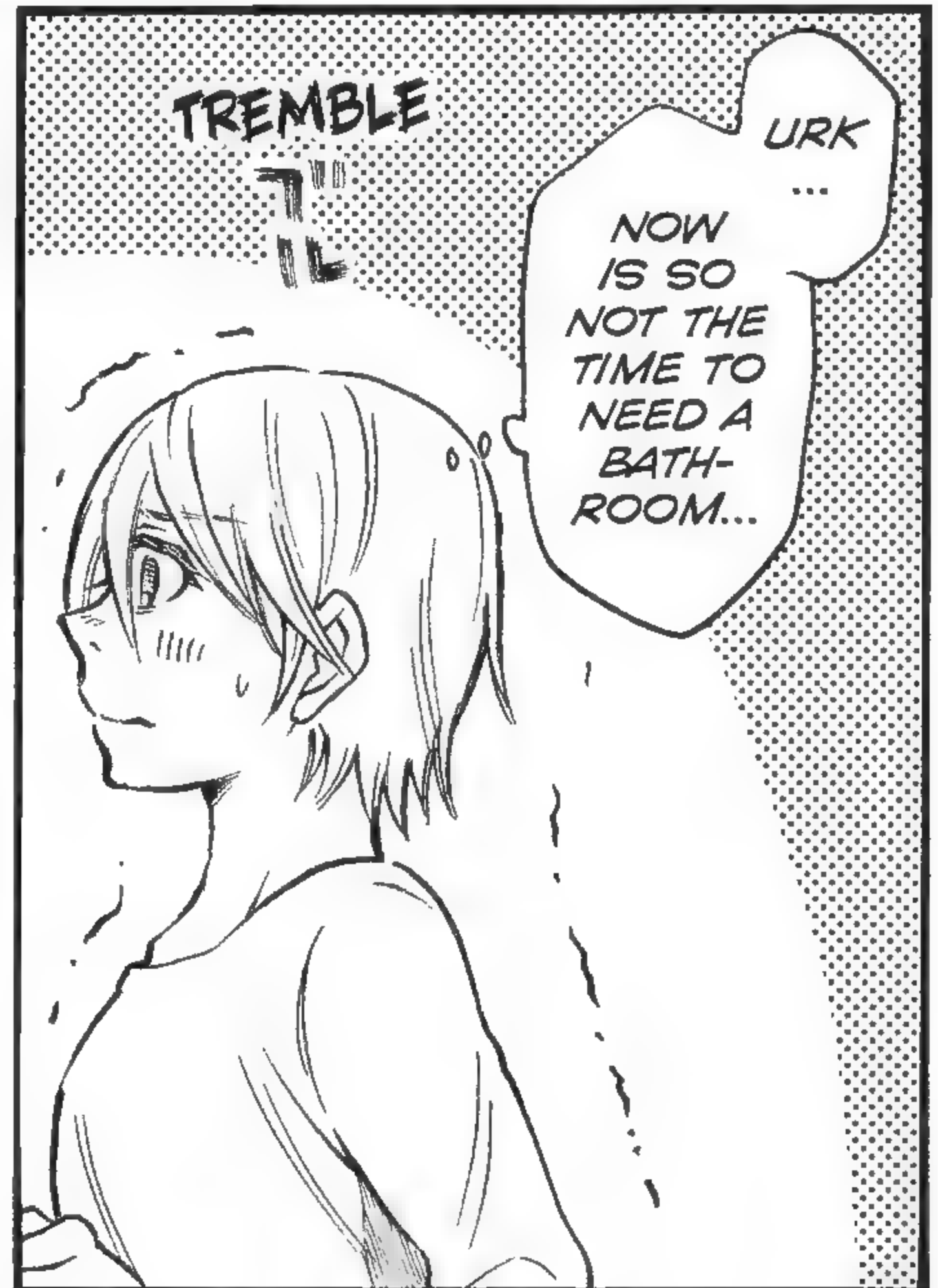
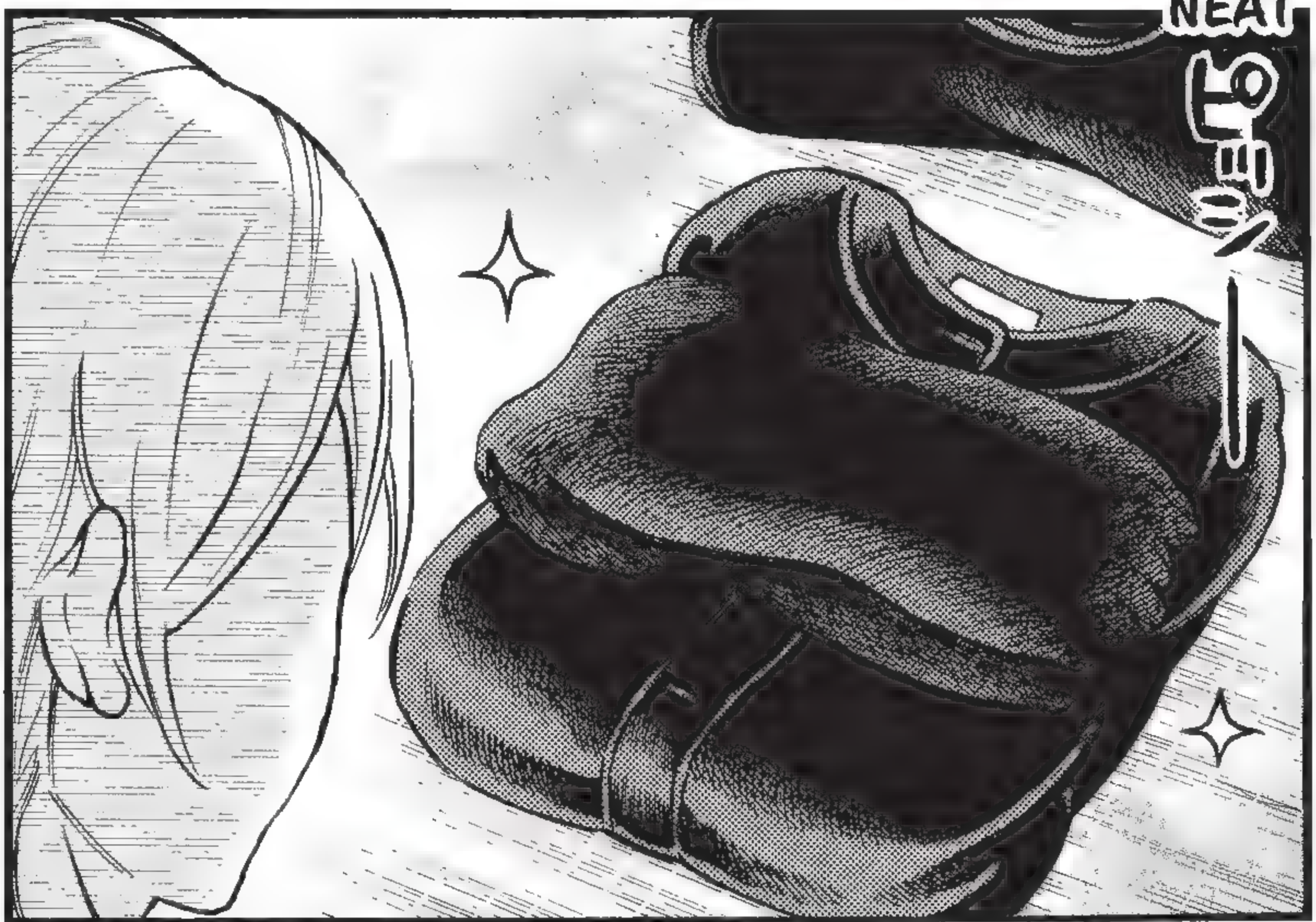
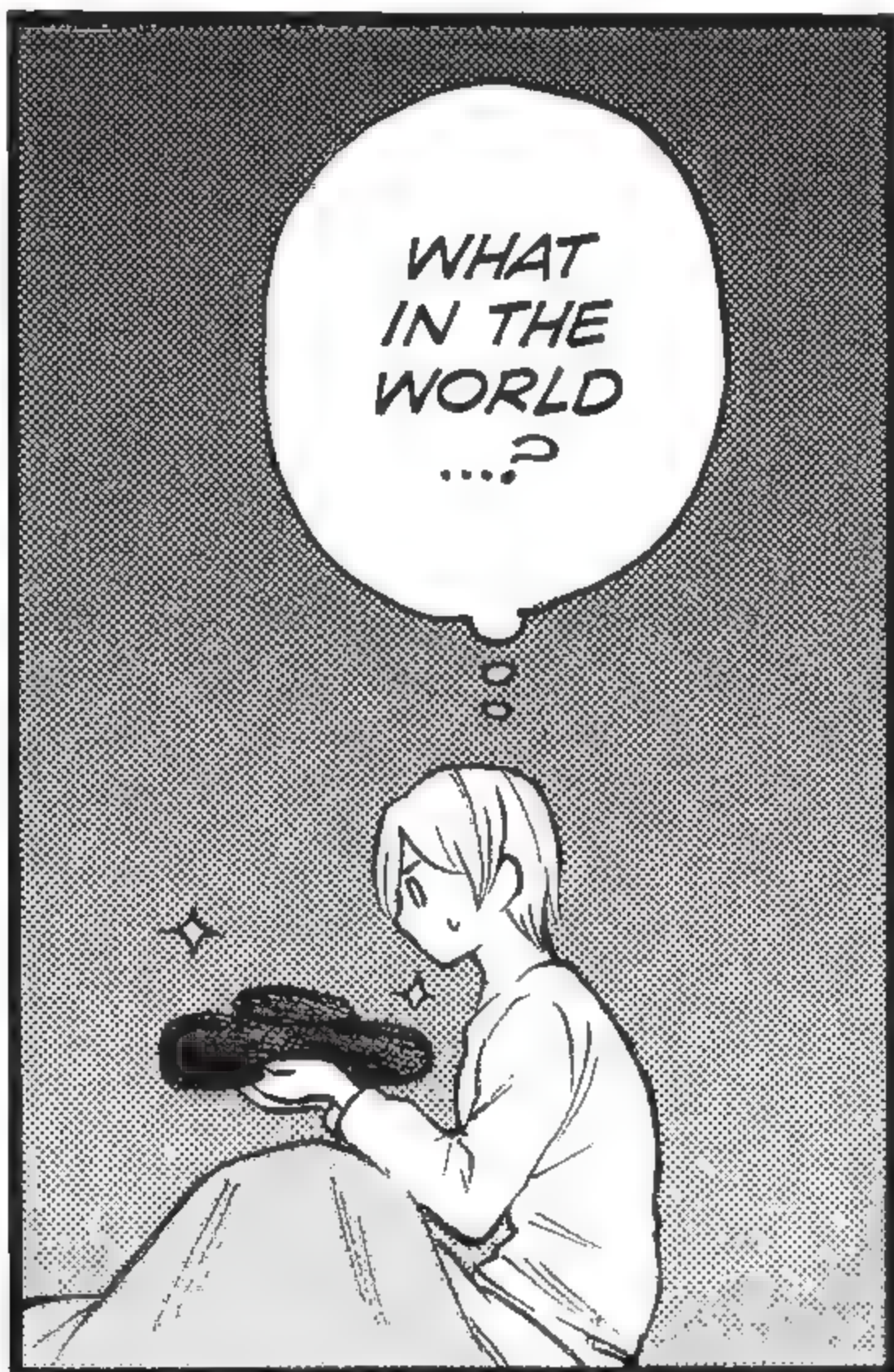
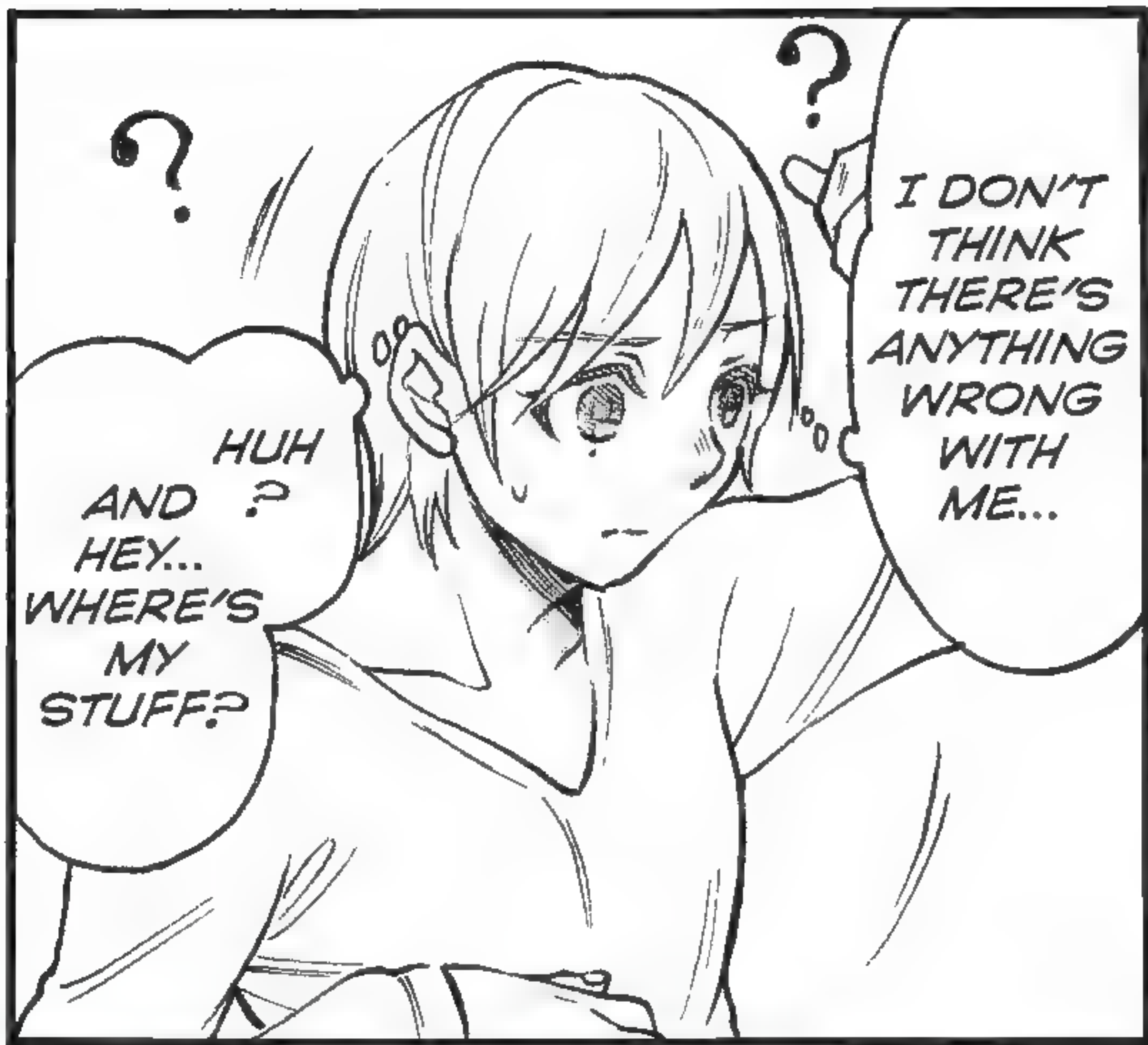
I HAD
ALMOST
NO
FRIENDS
IN MY
CLASS
(DARK
HISTORY
2),

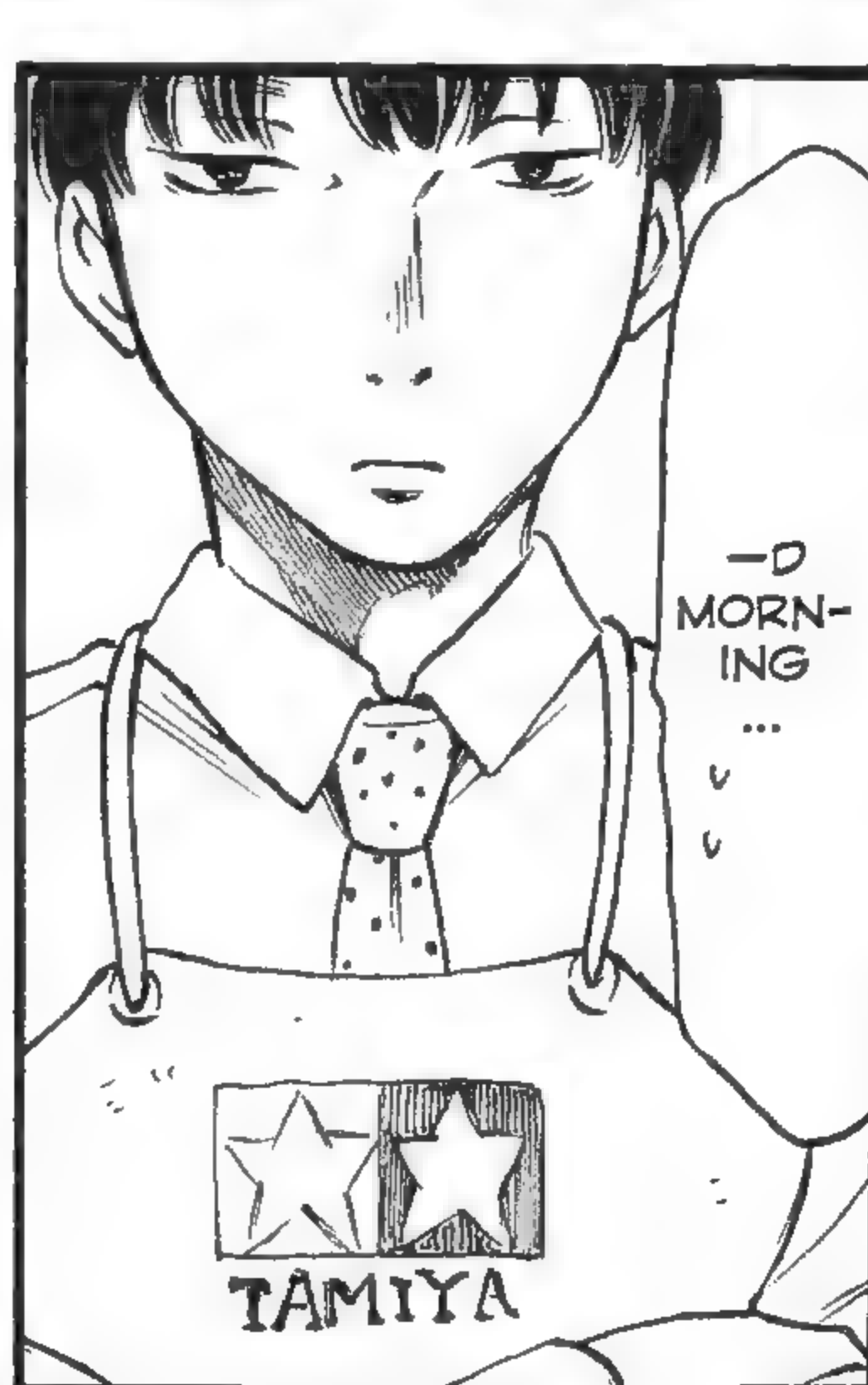
SO I
FEEL
LIKE I
ONLY
WENT
TO
SCHOOL
FOR THE
CLUB
ACTIVI-
TIES.

I RODE A
BIKE TO
SCHOOL,
TOD.

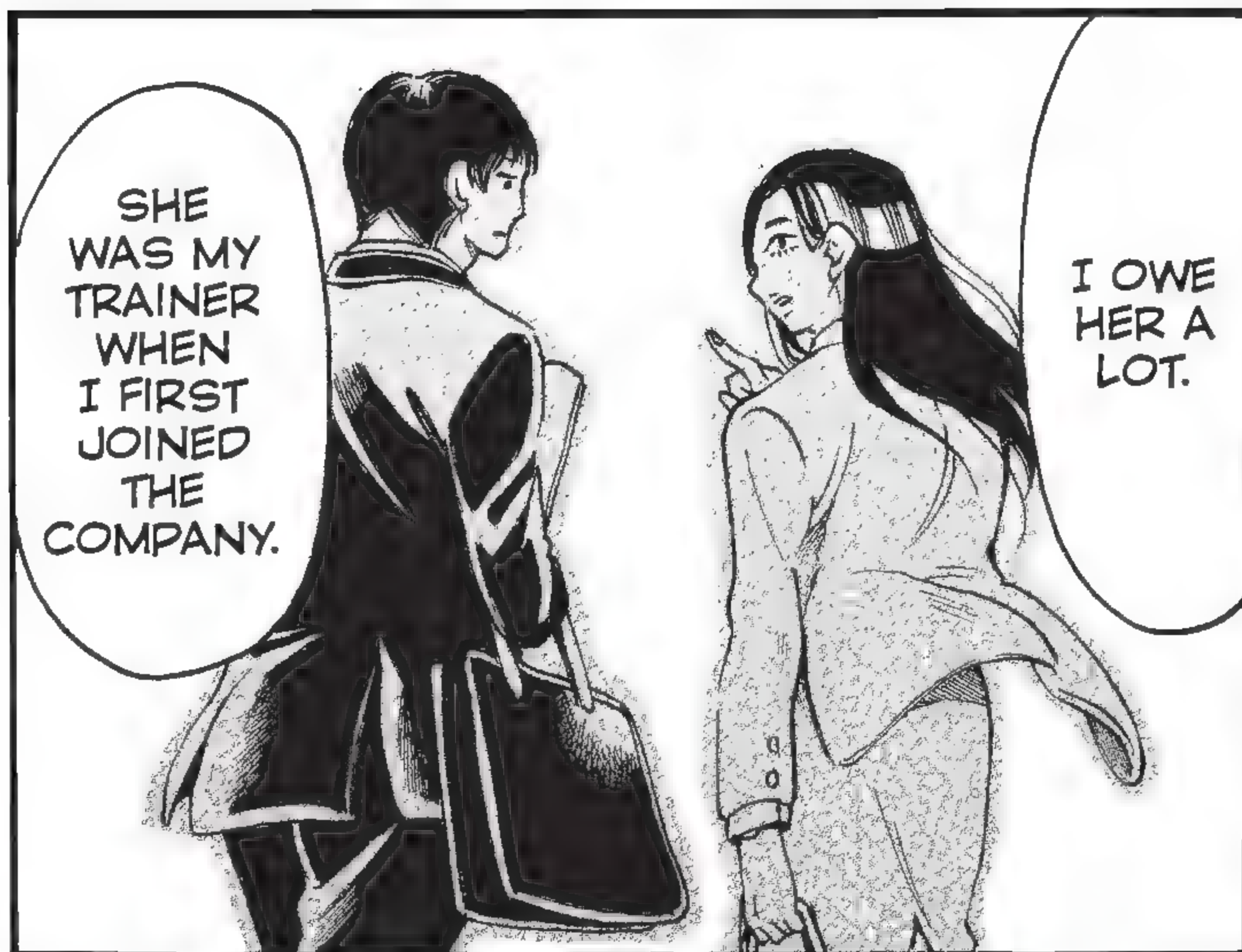












SHE WAS MY TRAINER WHEN I FIRST JOINED THE COMPANY.

I OWE HER A LOT.



OH.

WHAT EXACTLY WAS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HAYAMA-SAN?



I TRIED CALLING HER SEVERAL TIMES...BUT I COULDN'T GET THROUGH.

BUT SHE TAUGHT ME SO MUCH.

I WAS WORRIED AFTER WHAT HAPPENED.



RUMBLE

RUMBLE

WERE YOU ...

SCARED OF HER?

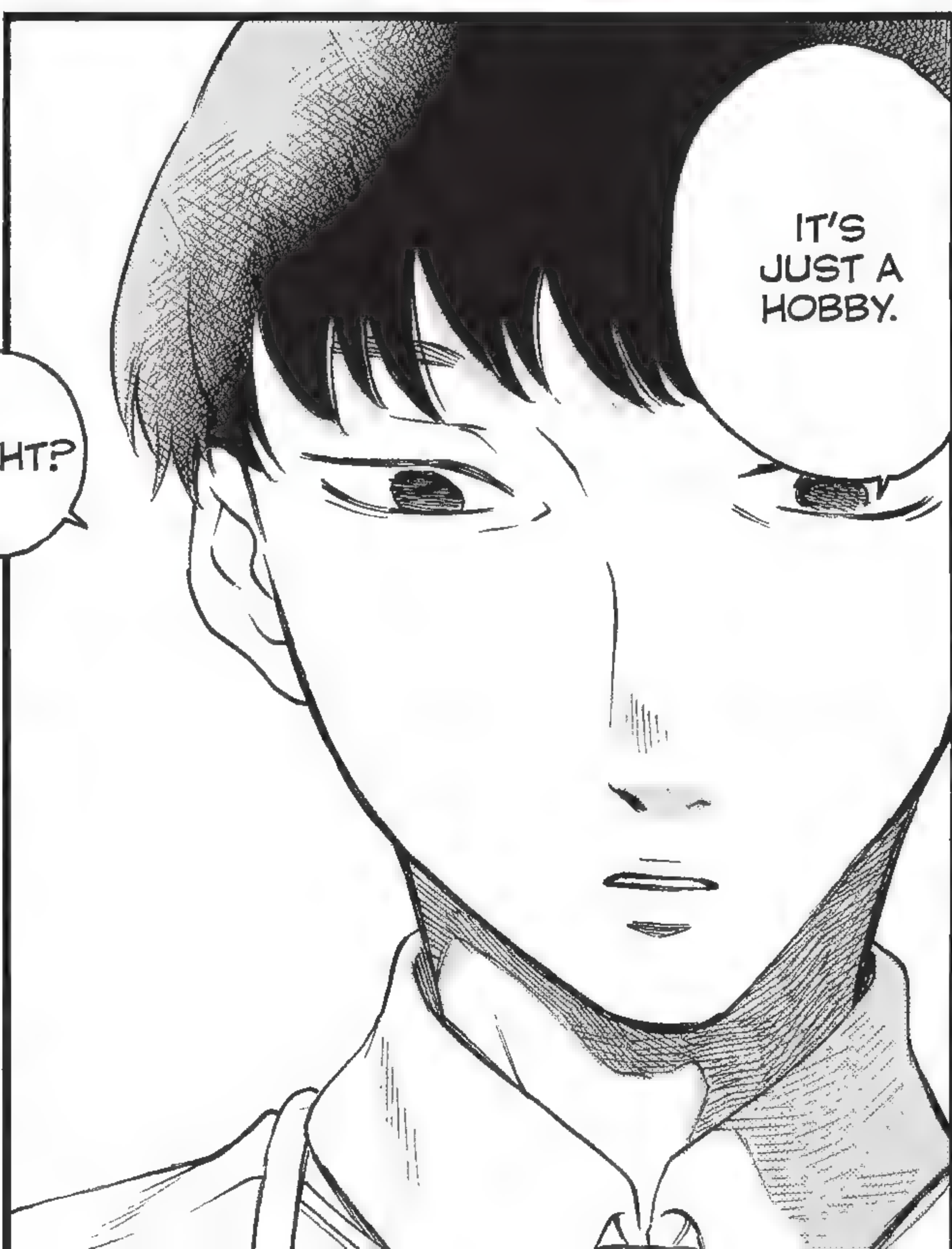
YES, TERRIFIED.

ESPECIALLY DURING WORK.

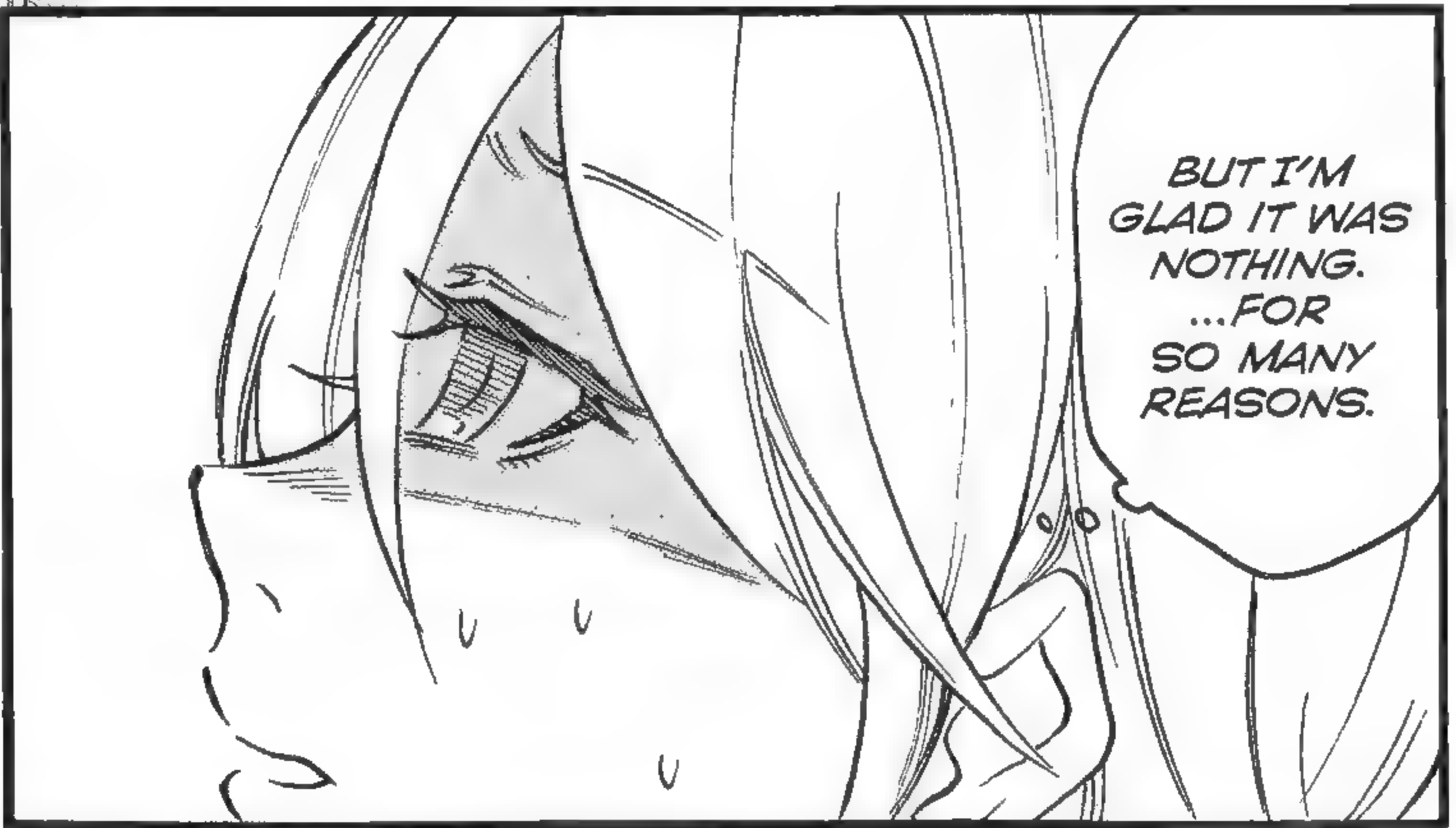


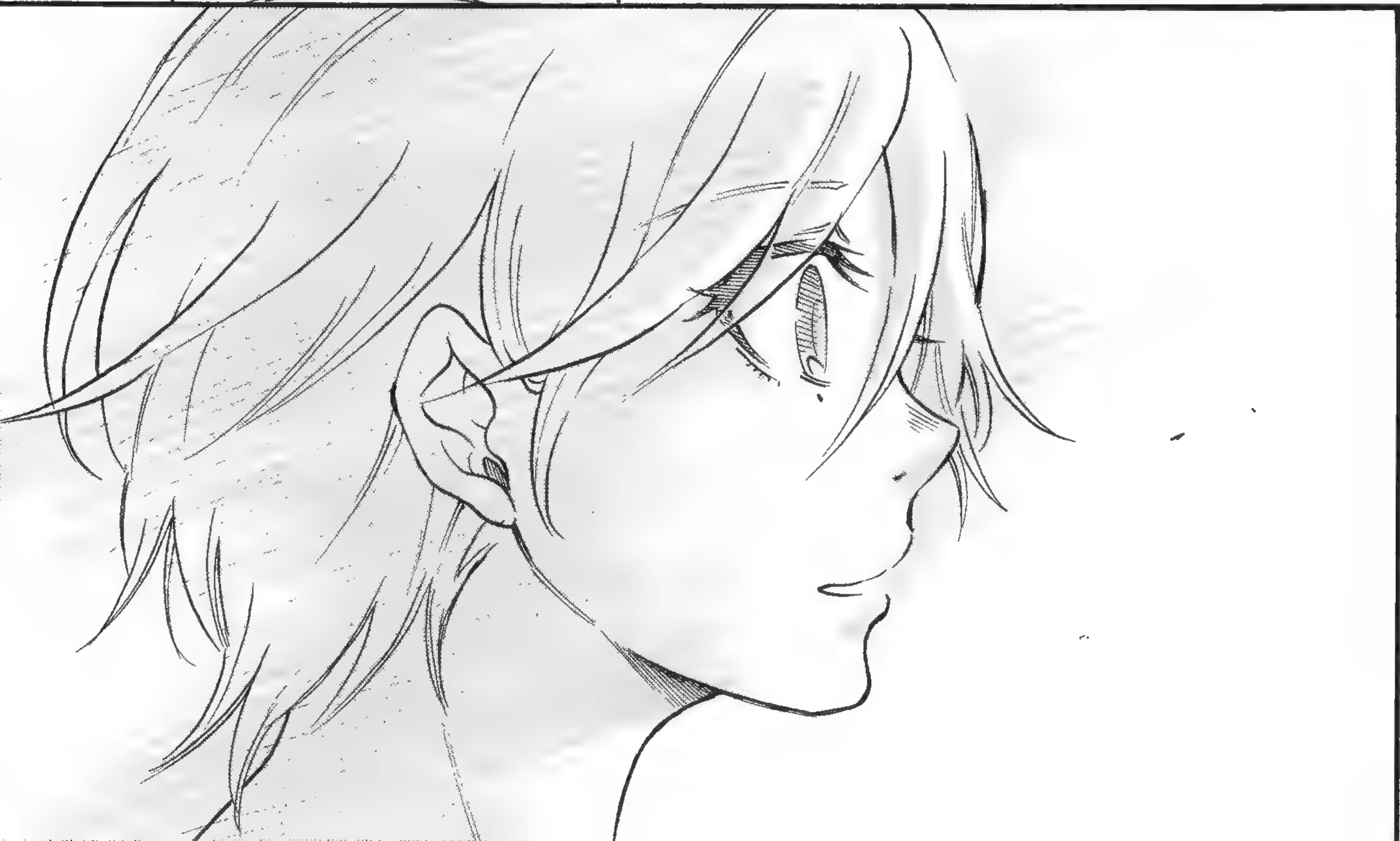
OH...
I SEE.

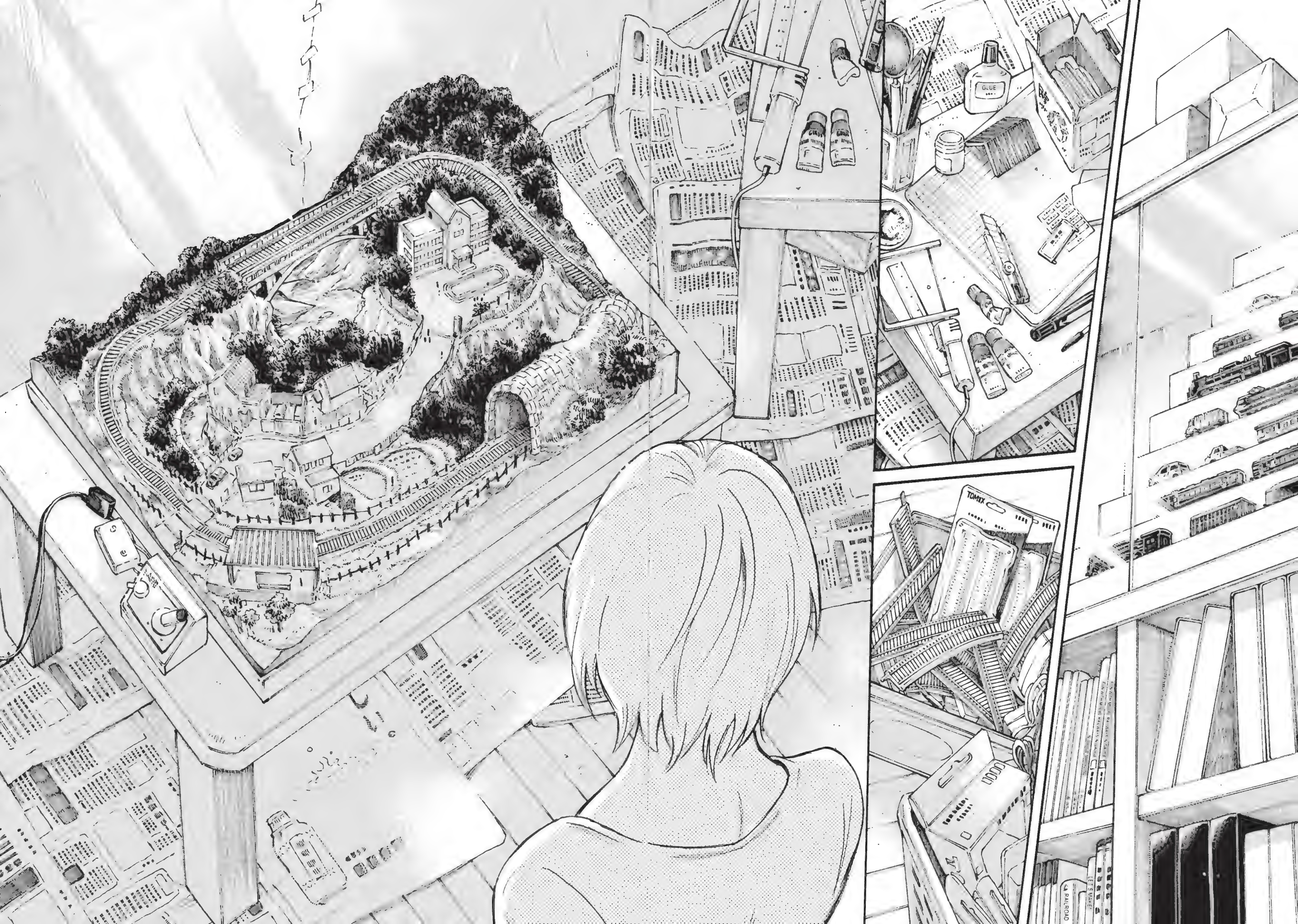
I TRIED ASKING OTHERS ABOUT HER.
BUT NOBODY KNEW ANYTHING.

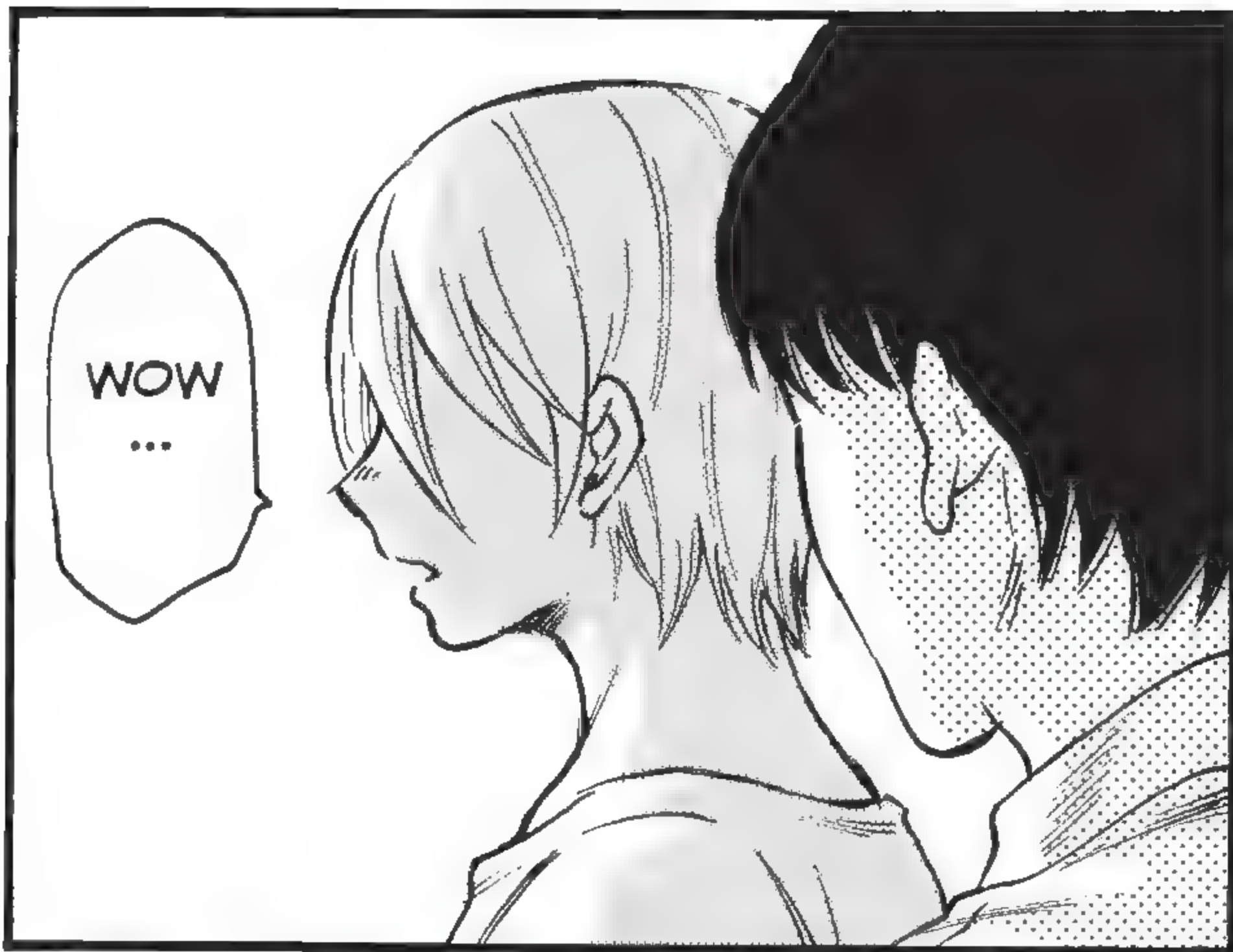






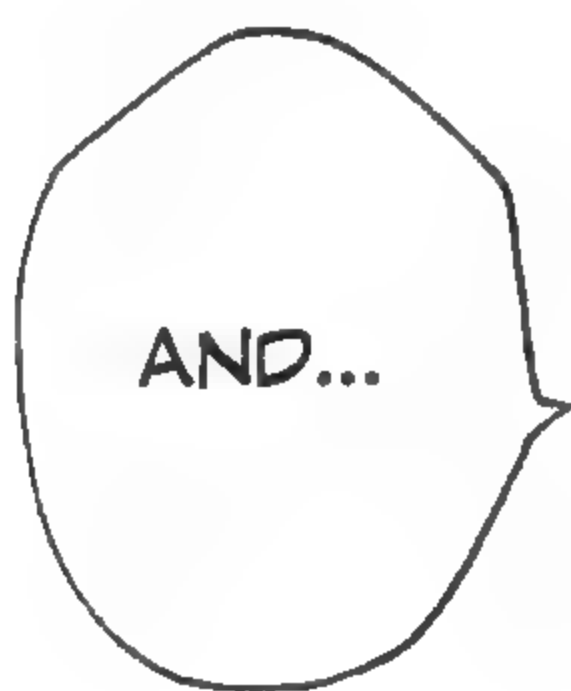


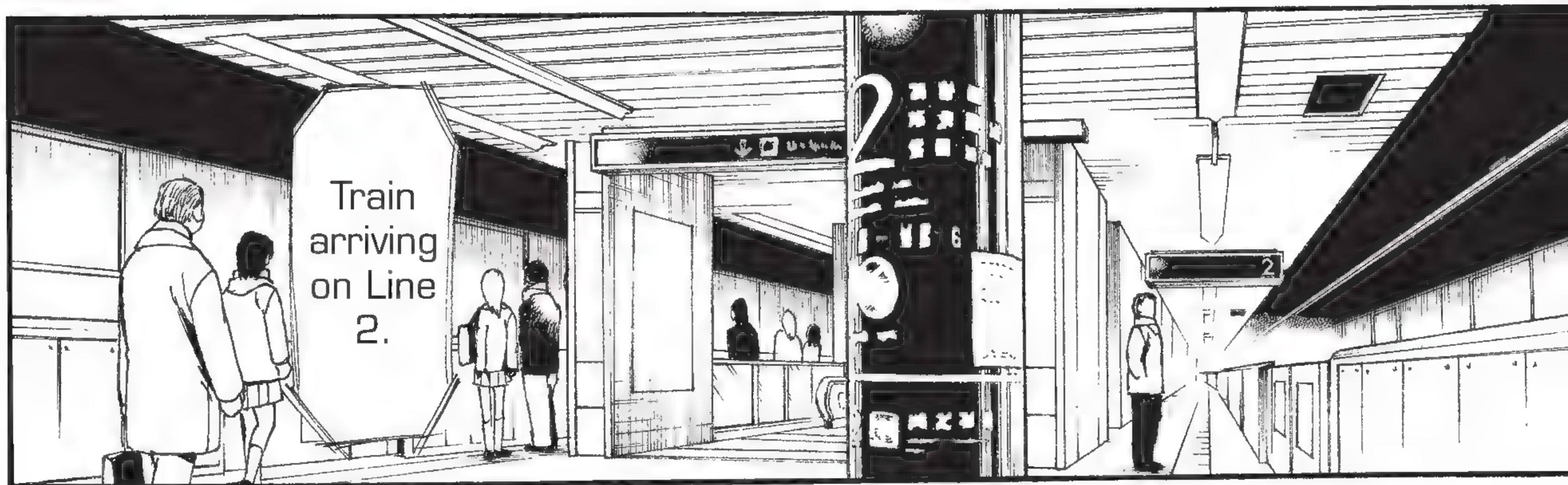


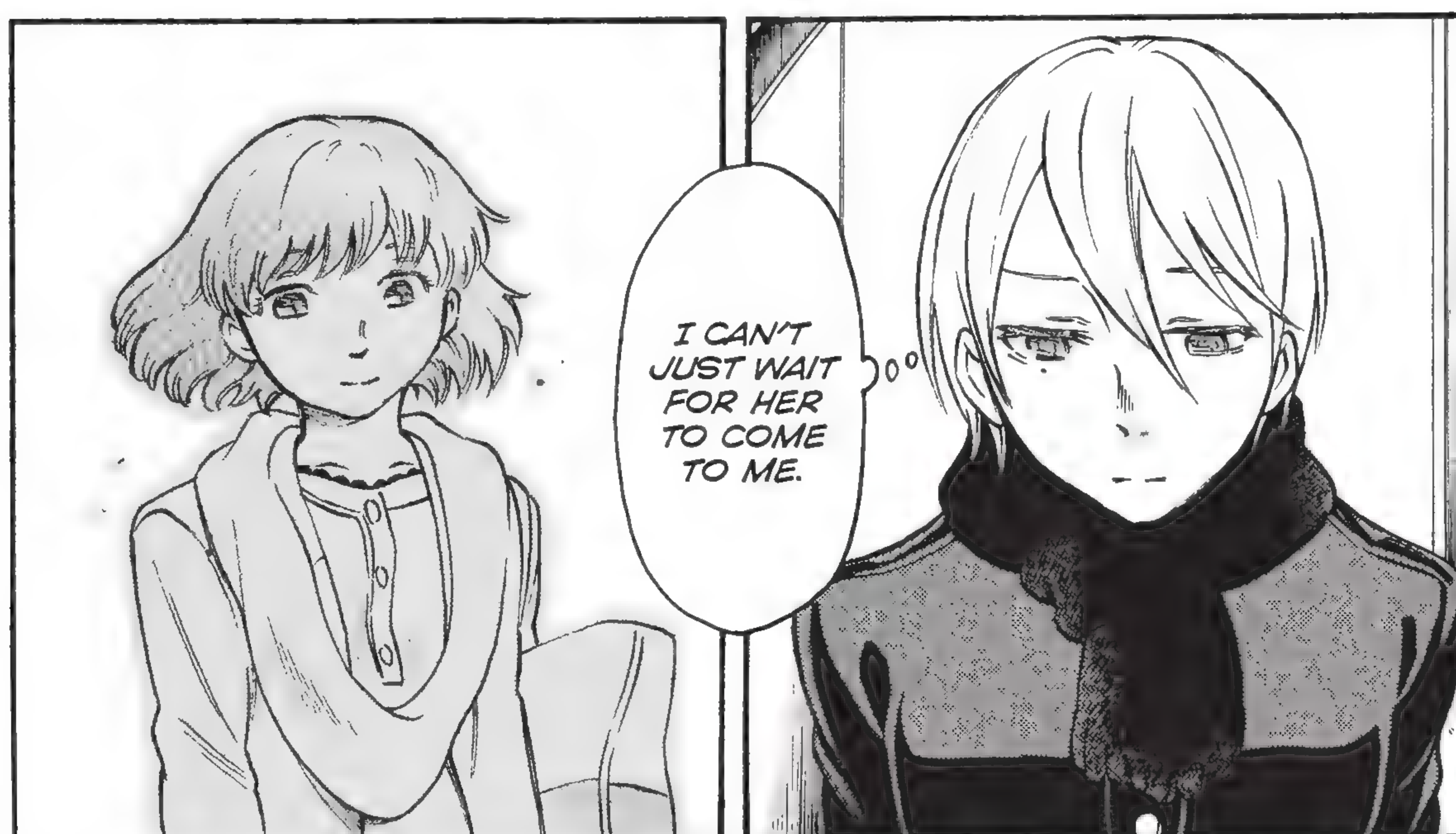














WHAT I
DON'T
WANT TO
SAY—ALL
OF IT. IF
WE'RE
GOING TO
TALK...

WHAT I
WANT TO
SAY...



...I HAVE
TO GO
SEE HER.



FROM THE
"DELI-
CIOUS!"
TO THE
"EH, IT'S
ALL RIGHT"
SNACKS,
I GET EX-
CITED JUST
LOOKING AT
THEM.

**SOLVE-
NIRS.**



THERE'S
ALSO
BEEF
TONGUE.

I LIKE IT,
TOO!

...THAT
ALSO
SHOWED
UP IN THIS
SERIES IS
HAGI NO
TSUKI.

SPEAKING
OF SEN-
DAI SOU-
VENIRS, A
FAMOUS
ONE...



PACKED
WITH
WALNUTS.

NAMA-
DORA.

DORAYAKI
WITH-YOU
GUESSED
IT-FRESH
CREAM!!
YUMMY!

KIKUFUKU.

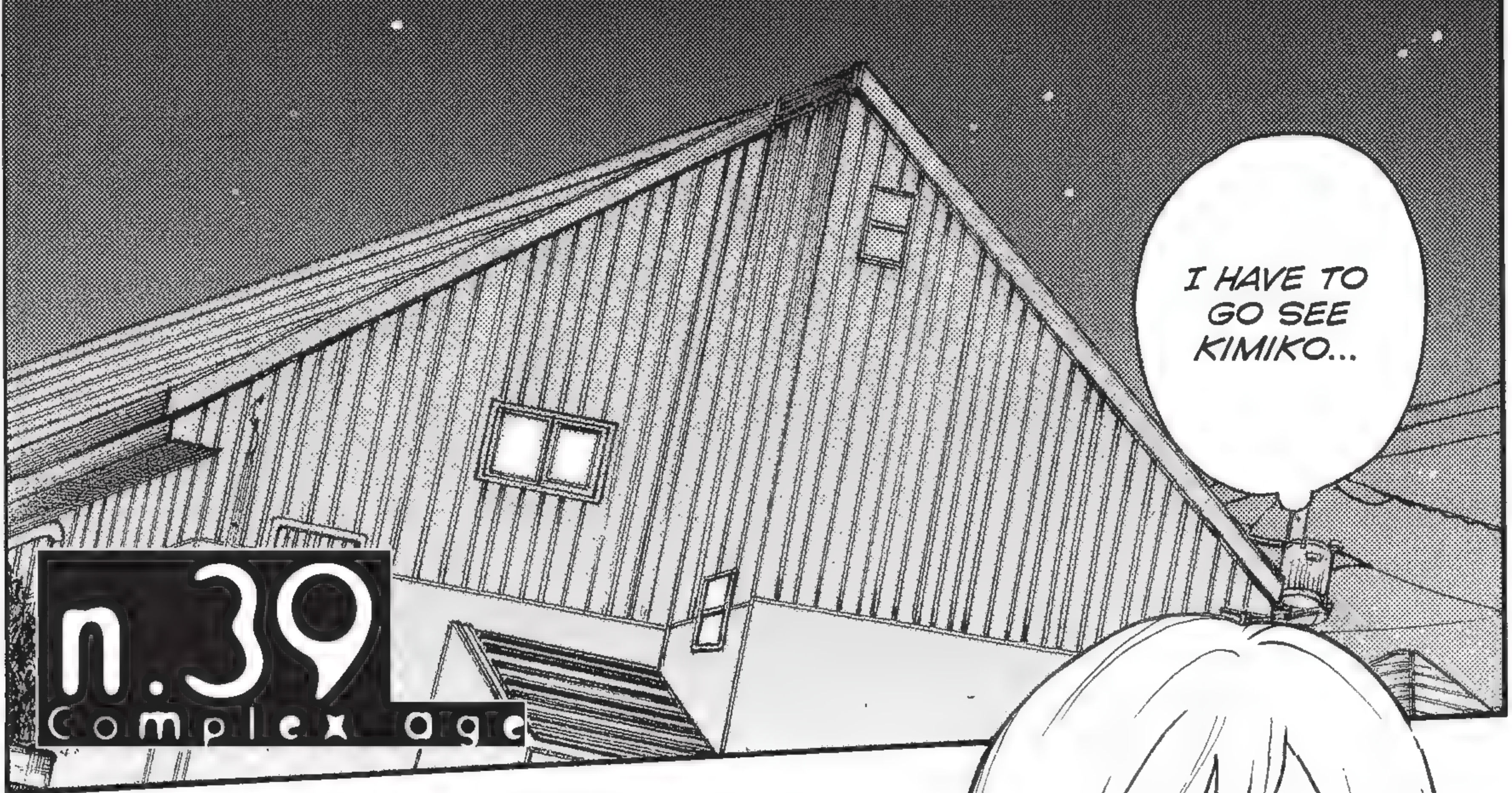
DAIFUKU
WITH
FRESH
CREAM.

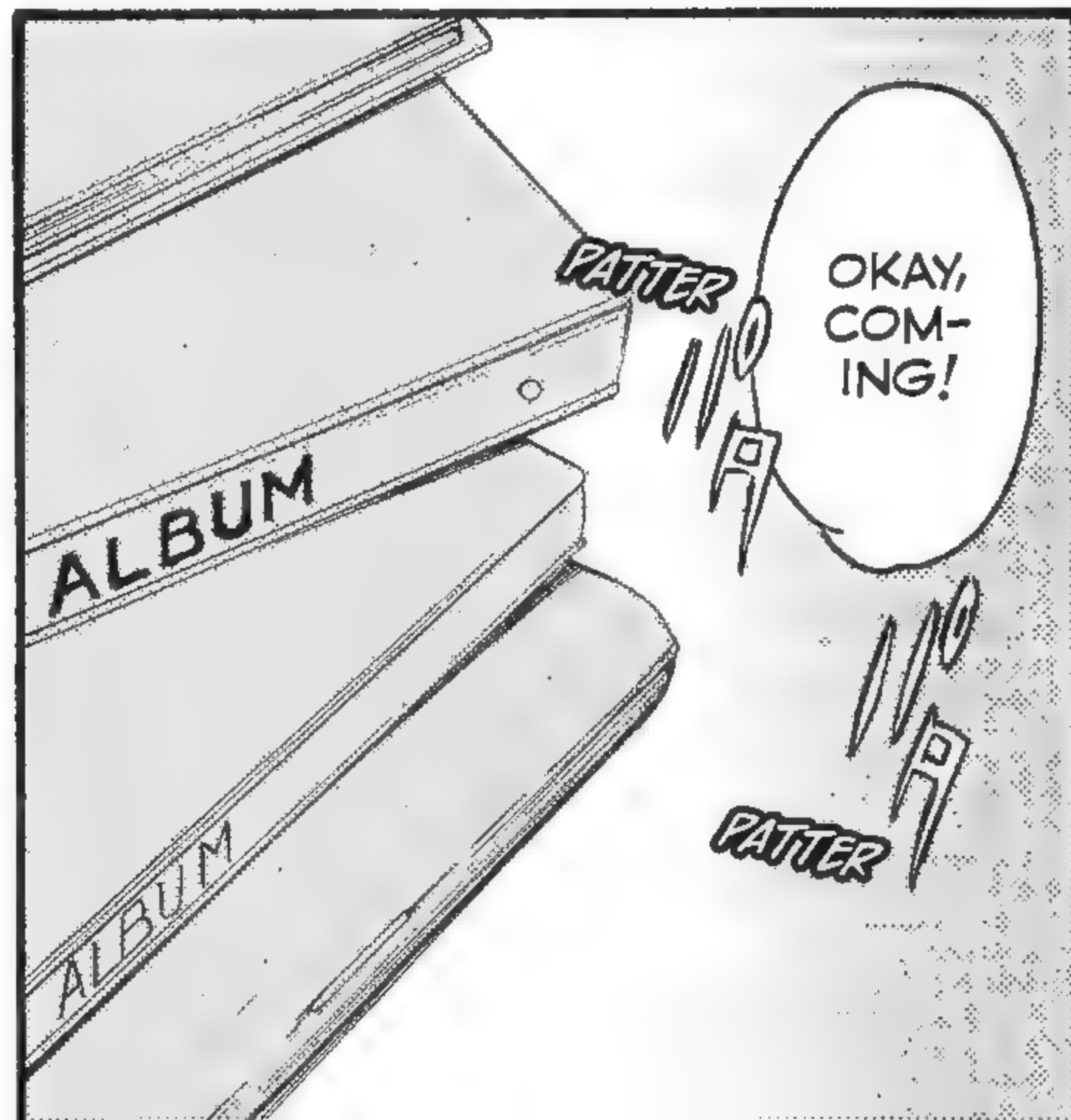
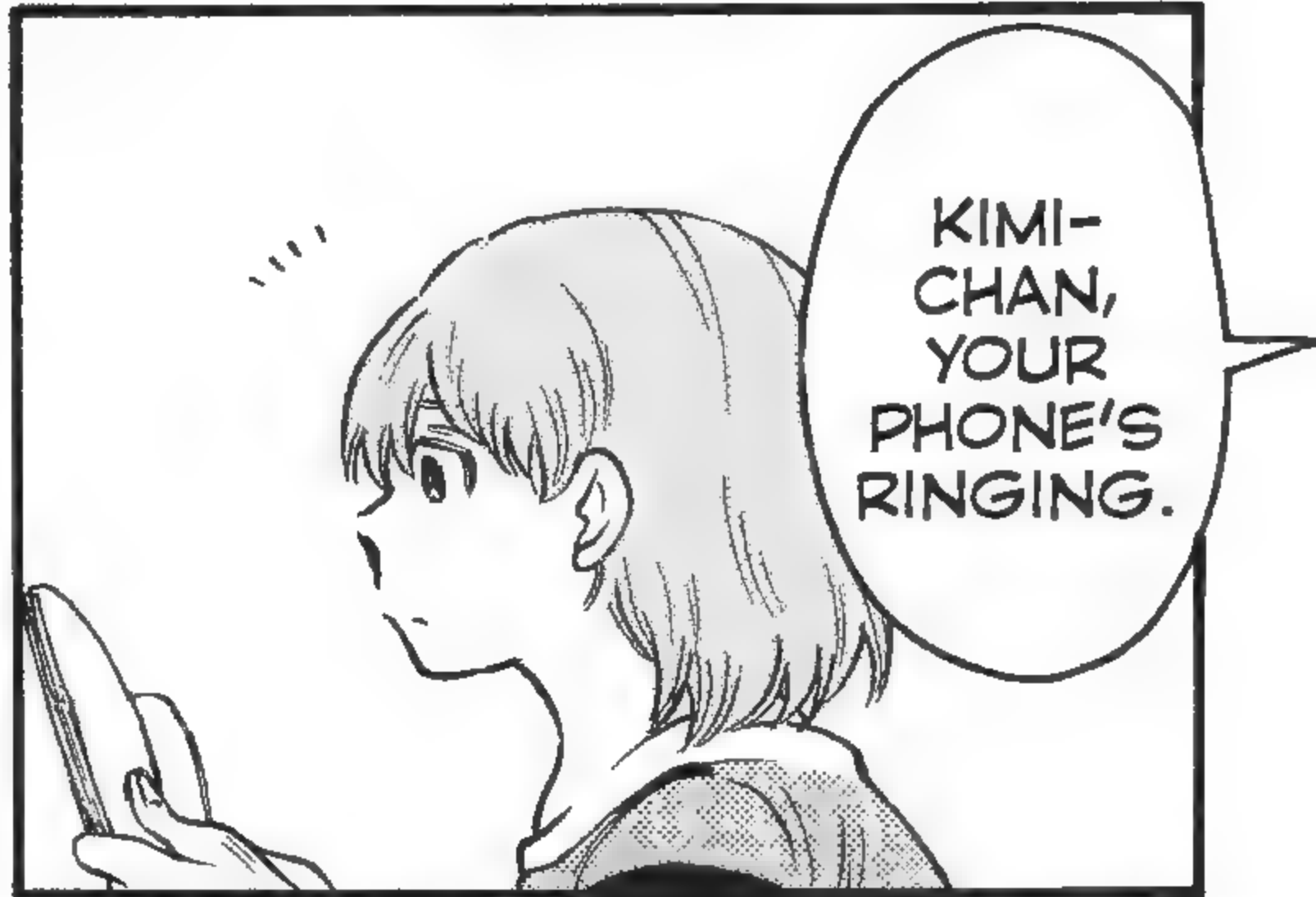
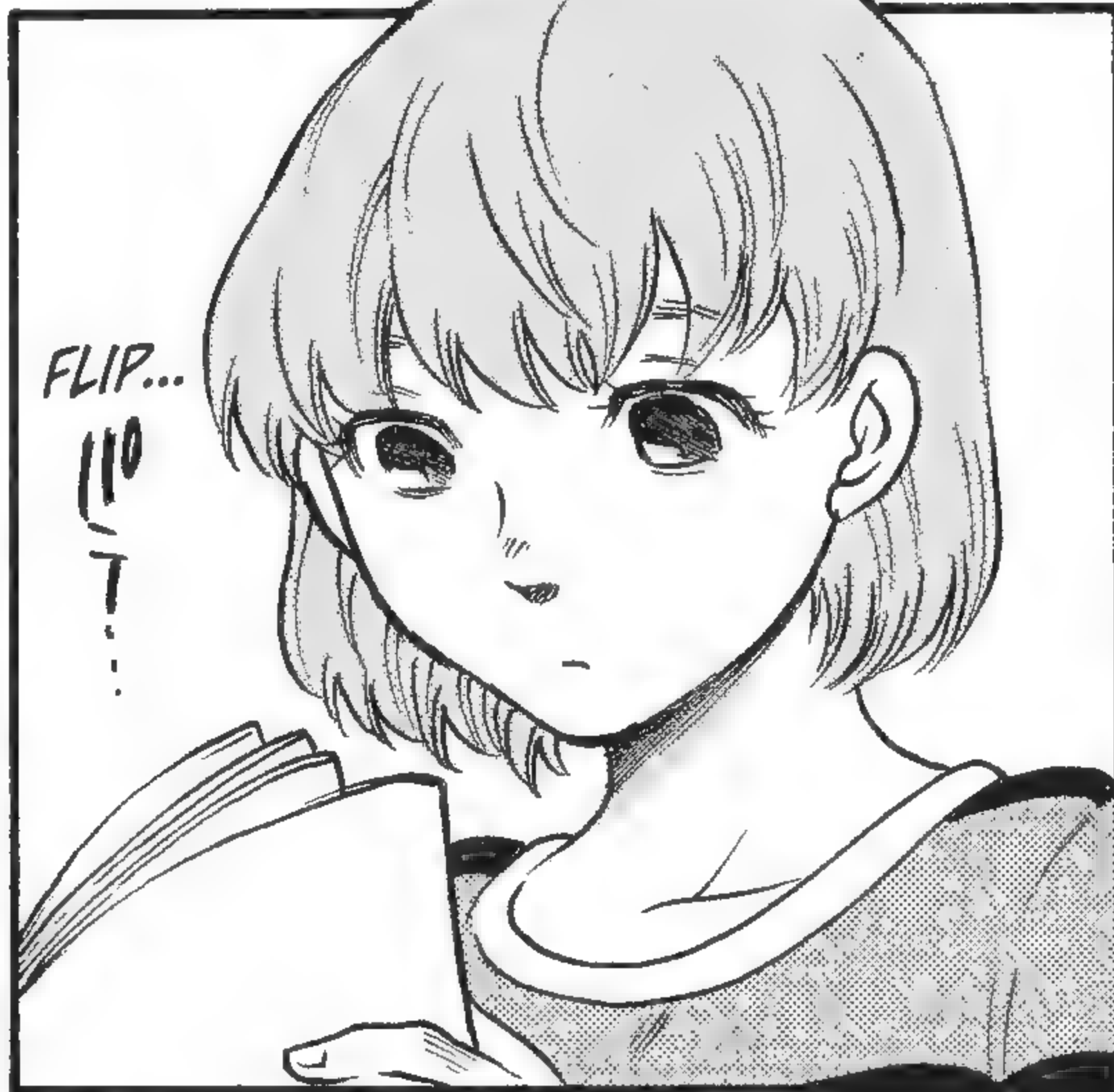
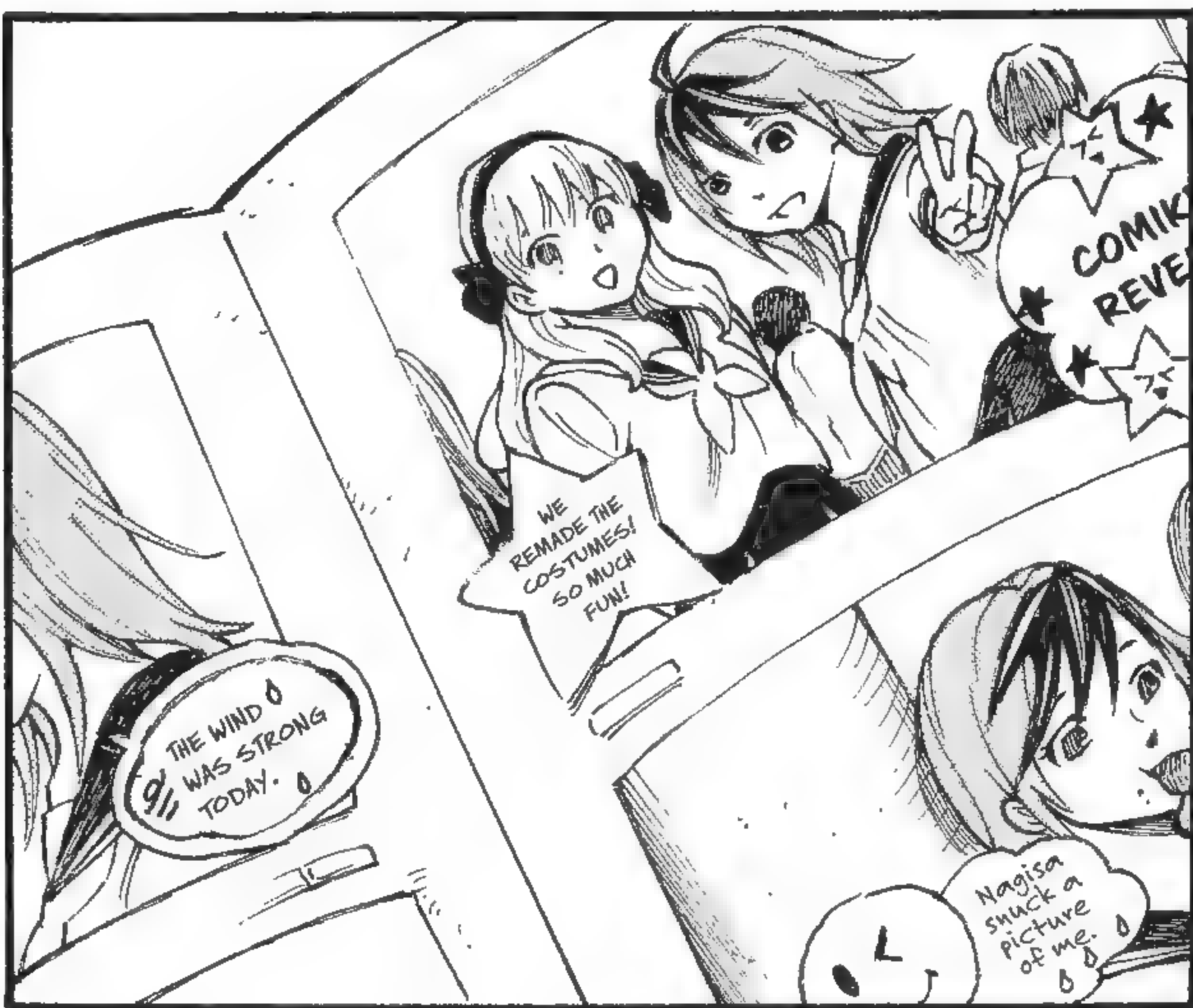
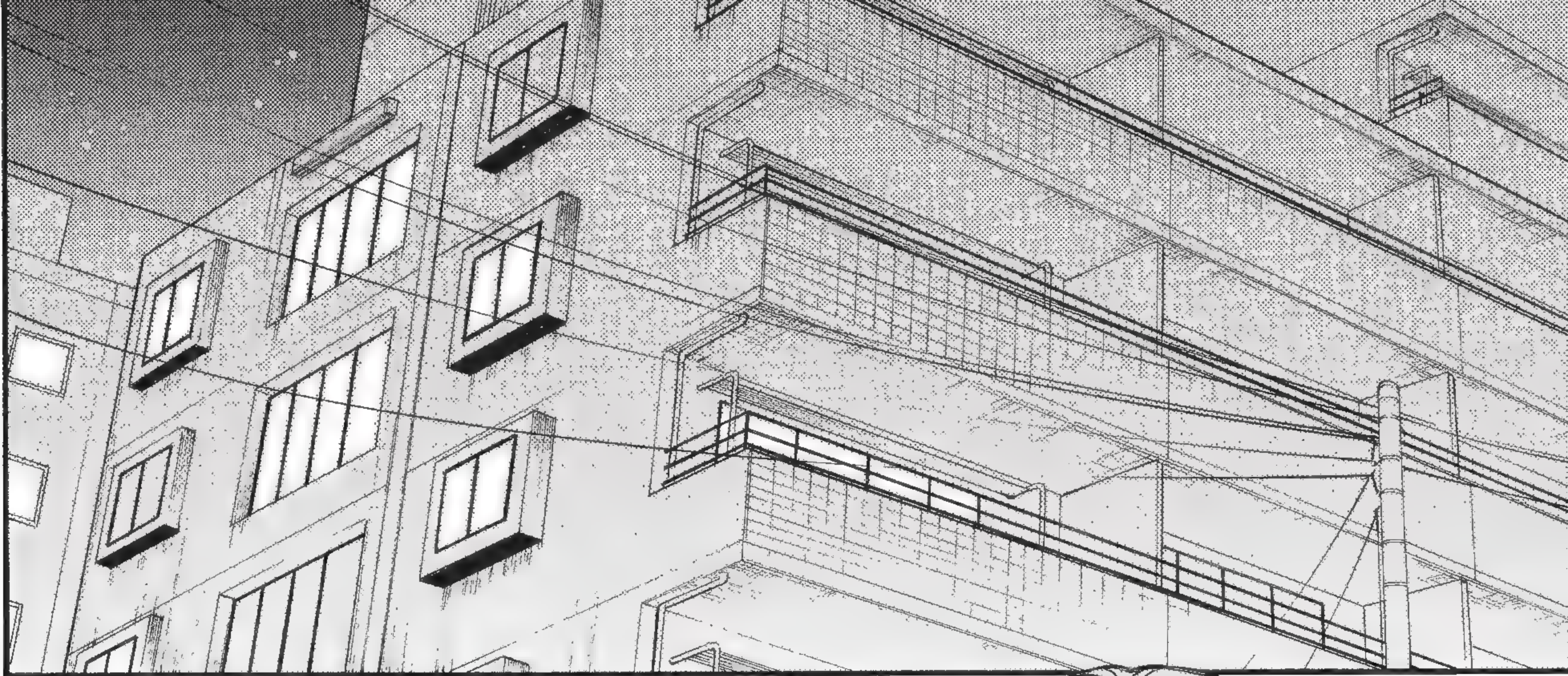
AS FOR THE
SOUVENIRS
I,
PERSONALLY,
ALWAYS
WANT TO
EAT...

PAPA-
GONOMI.*

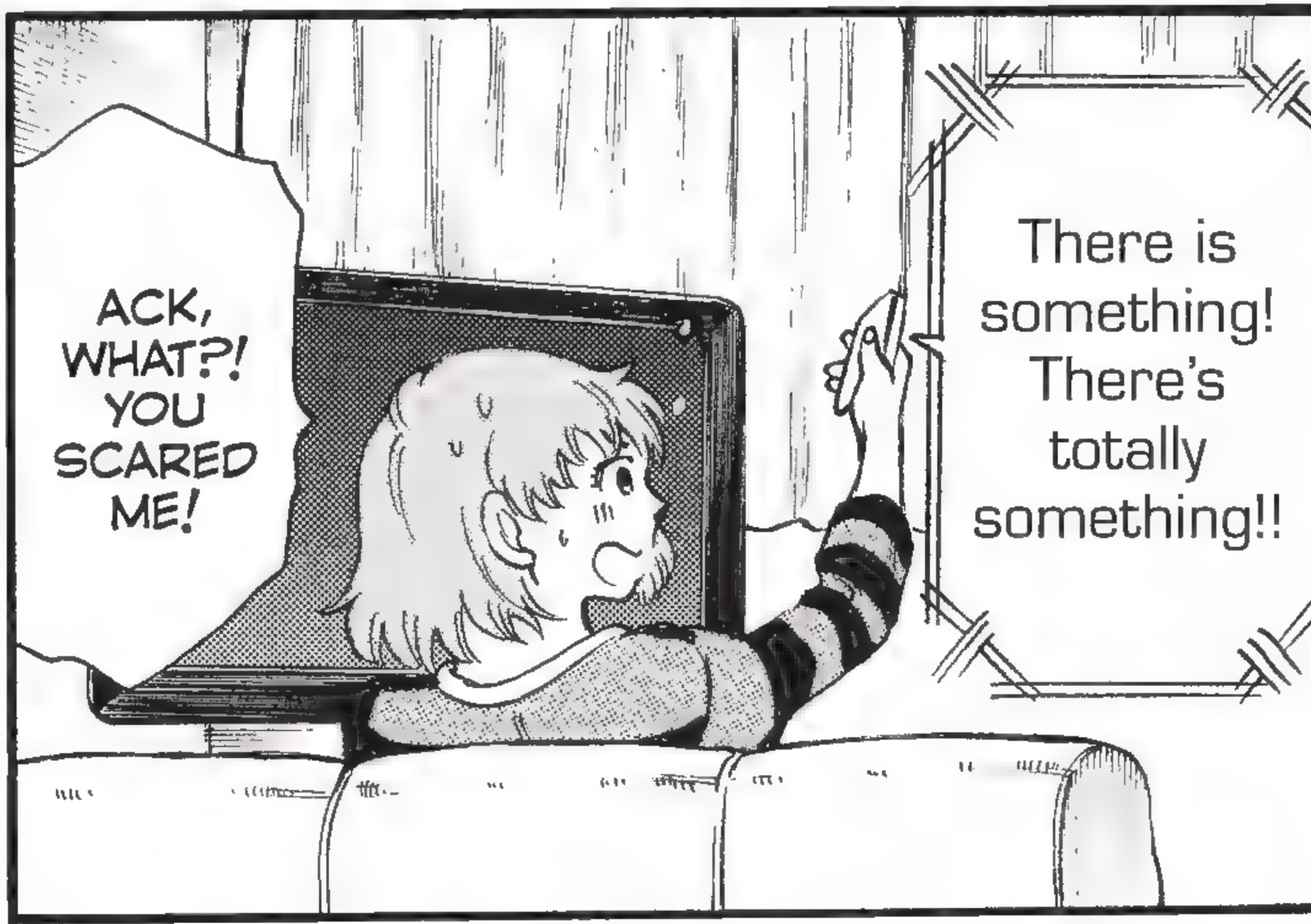
Package: Rakutaro
Nama Dorayaki
In little box, left: Keep refrigerated

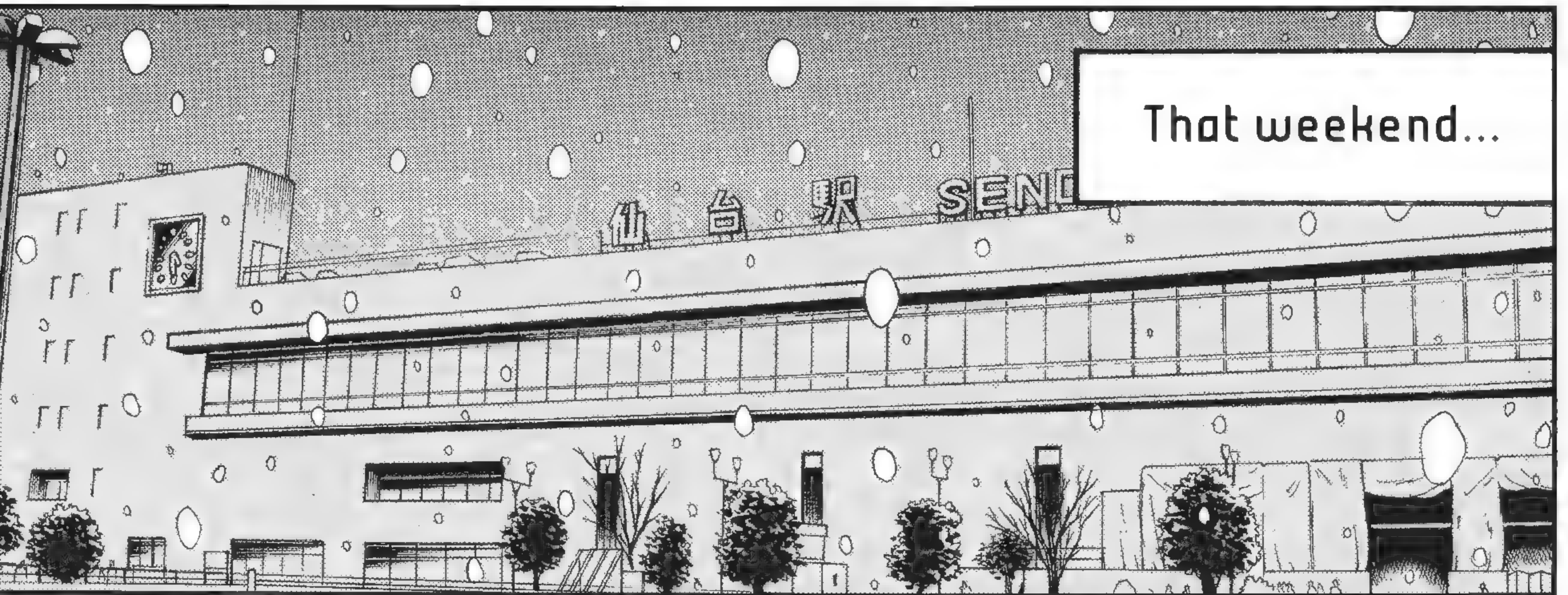
Package: Mama loves it, too!
Main label: Papagonomi

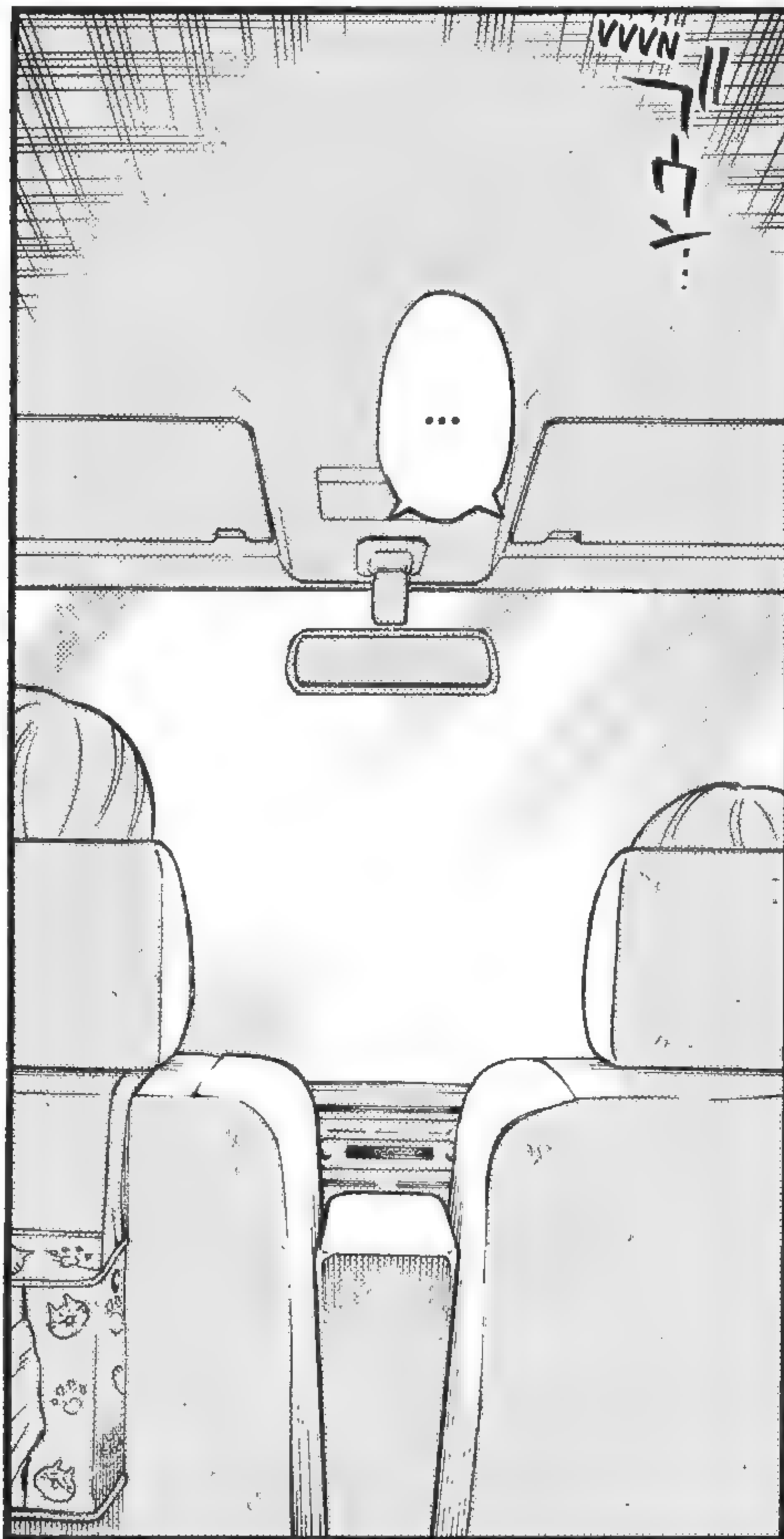
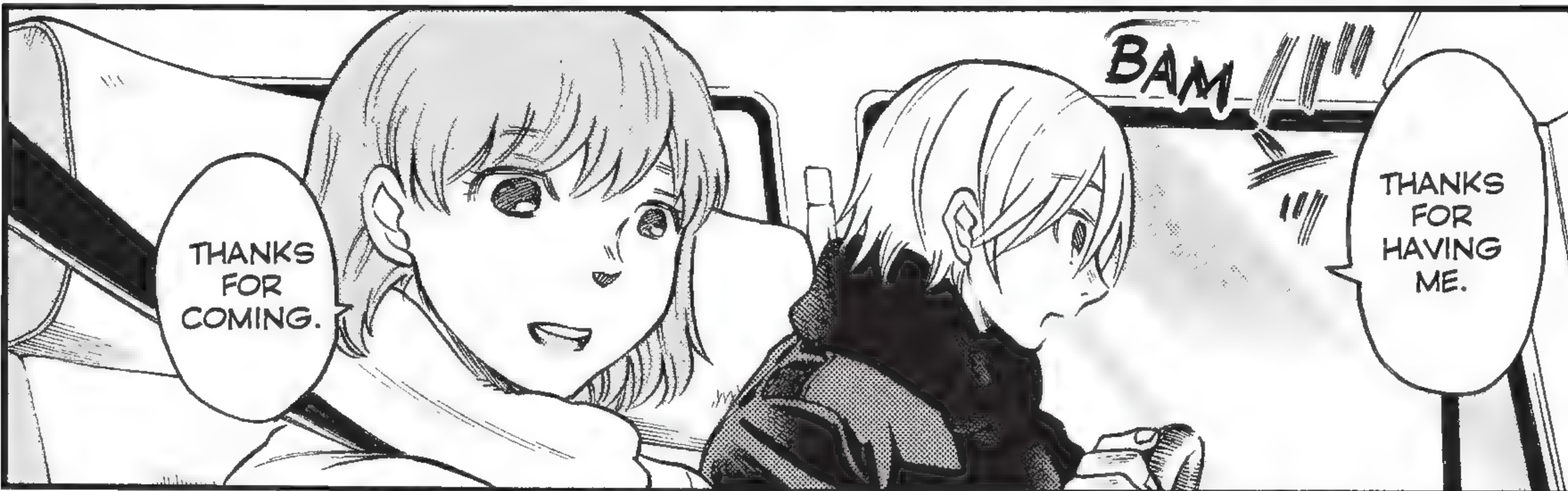
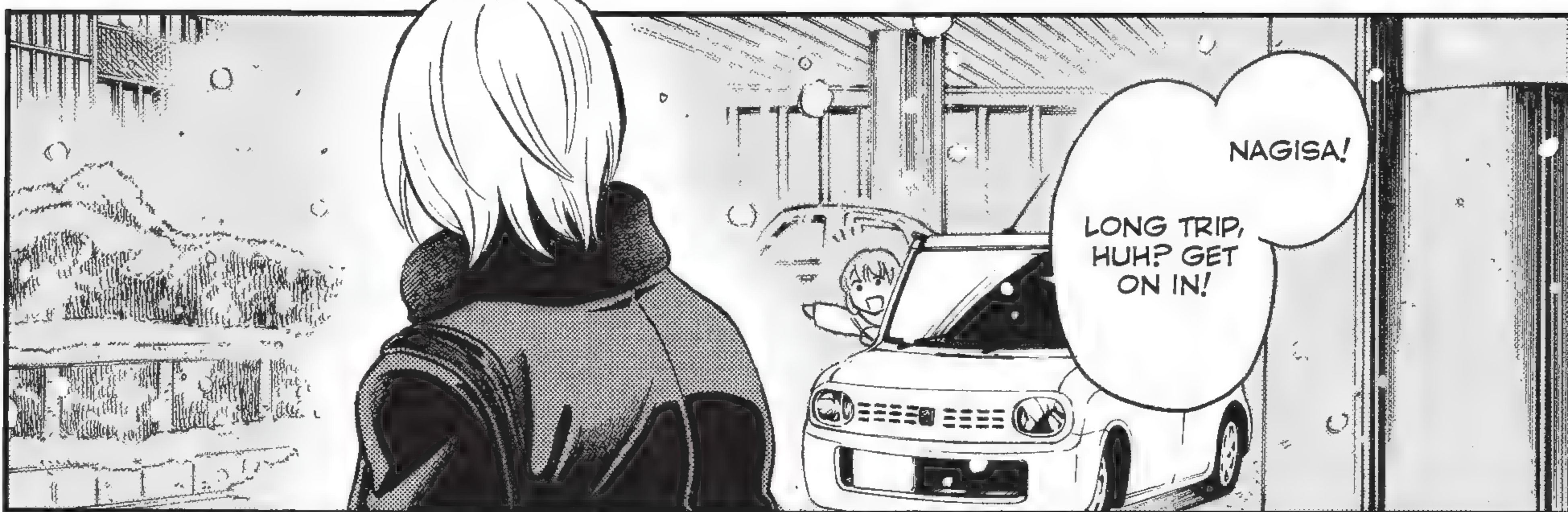


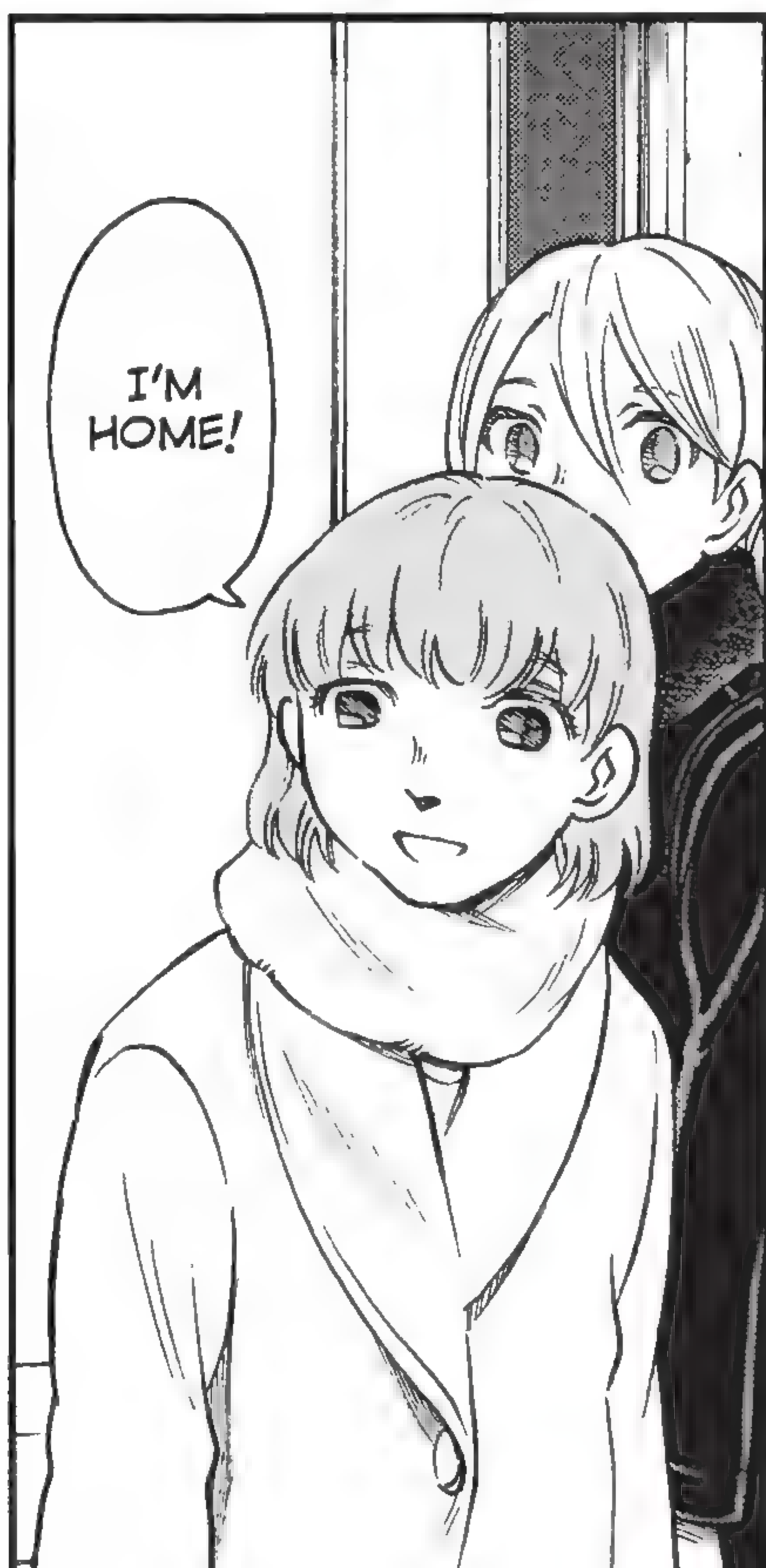


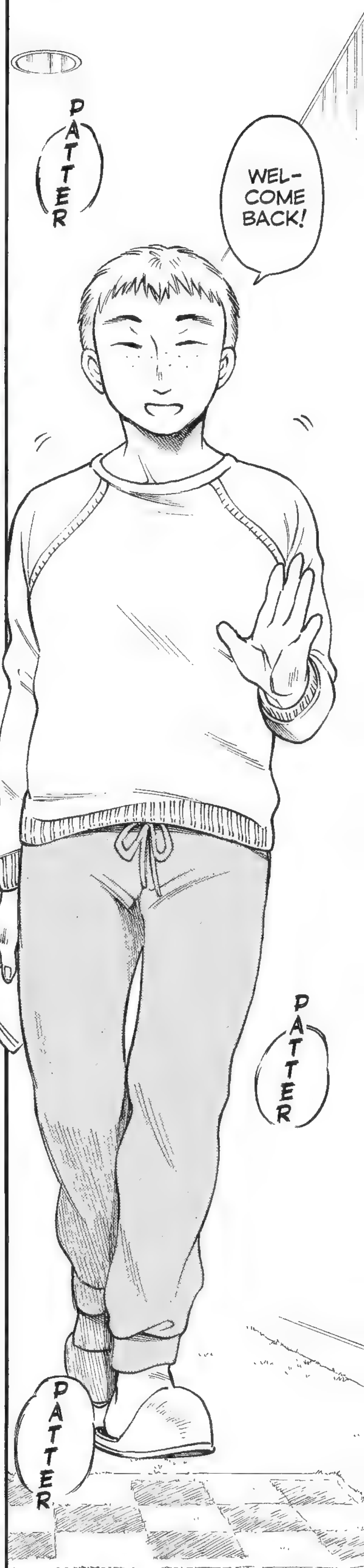




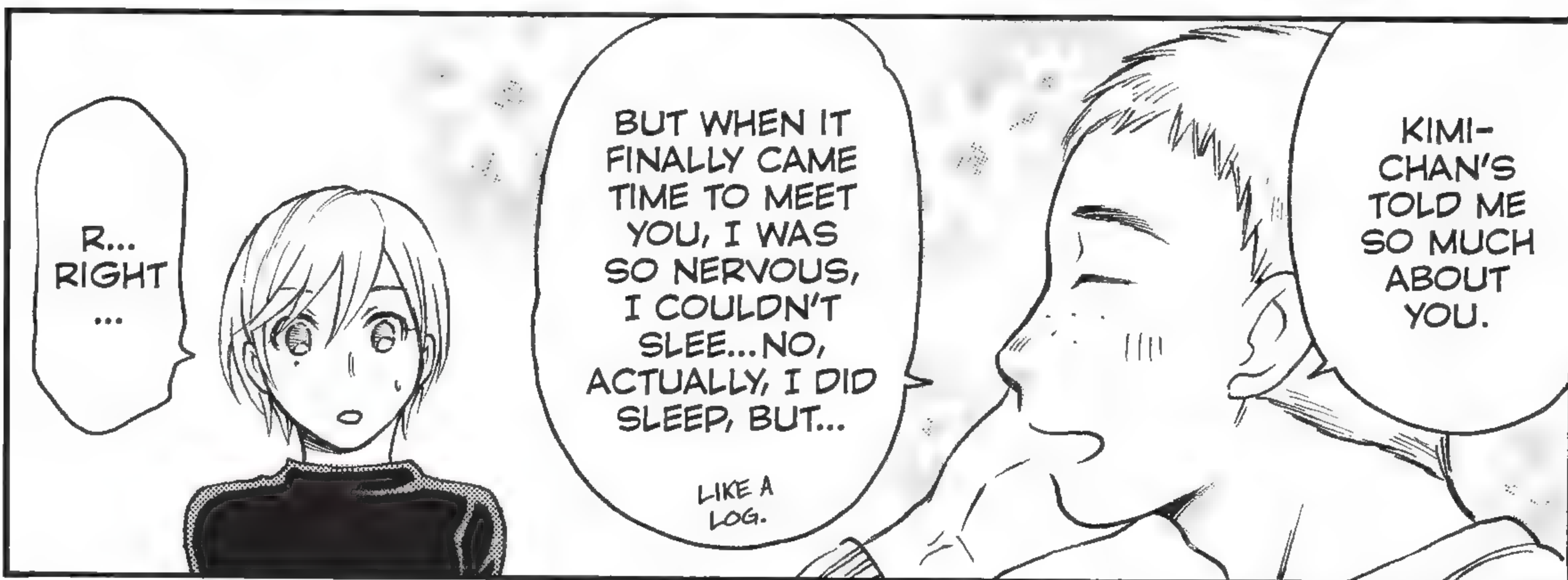
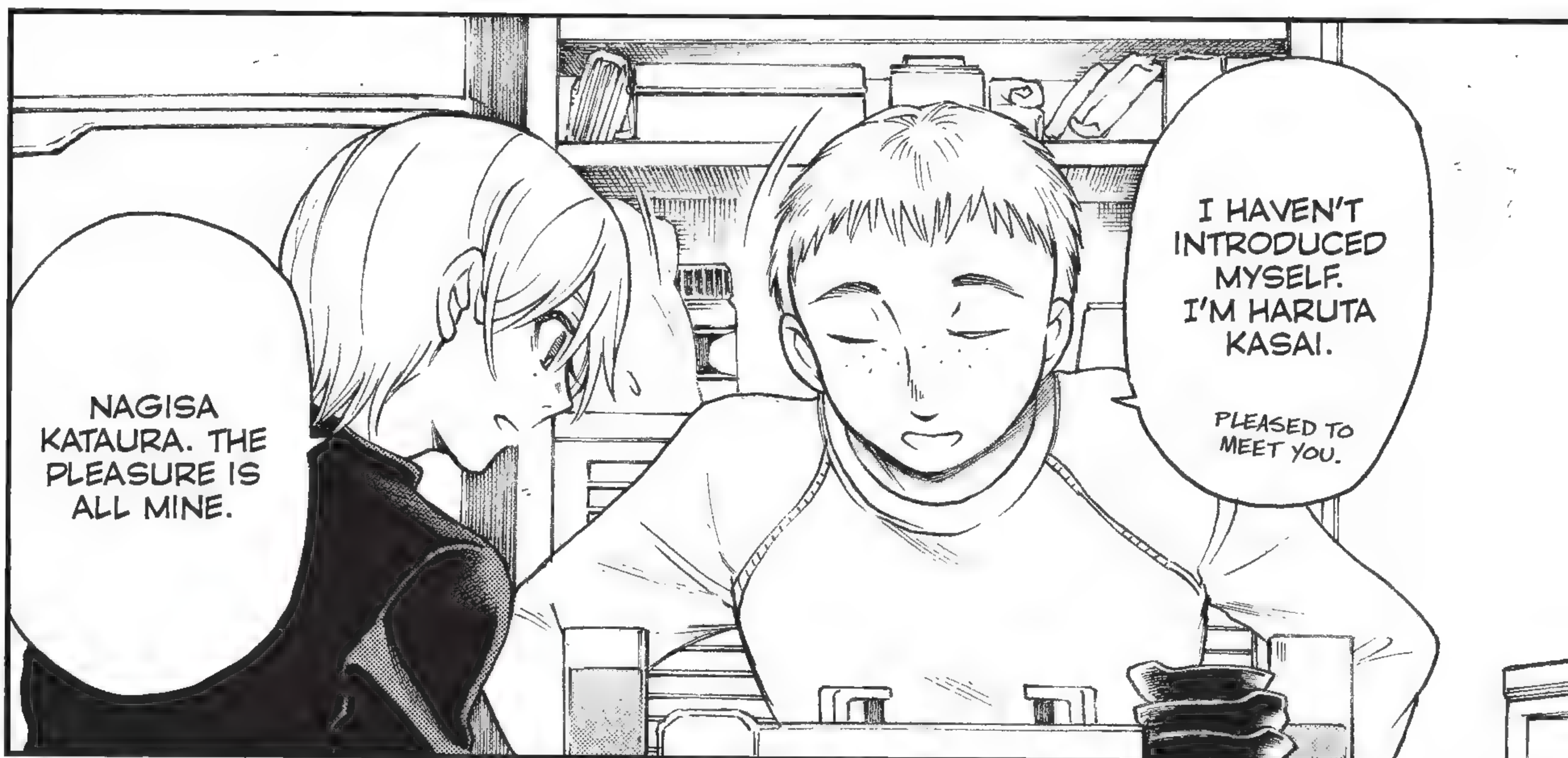


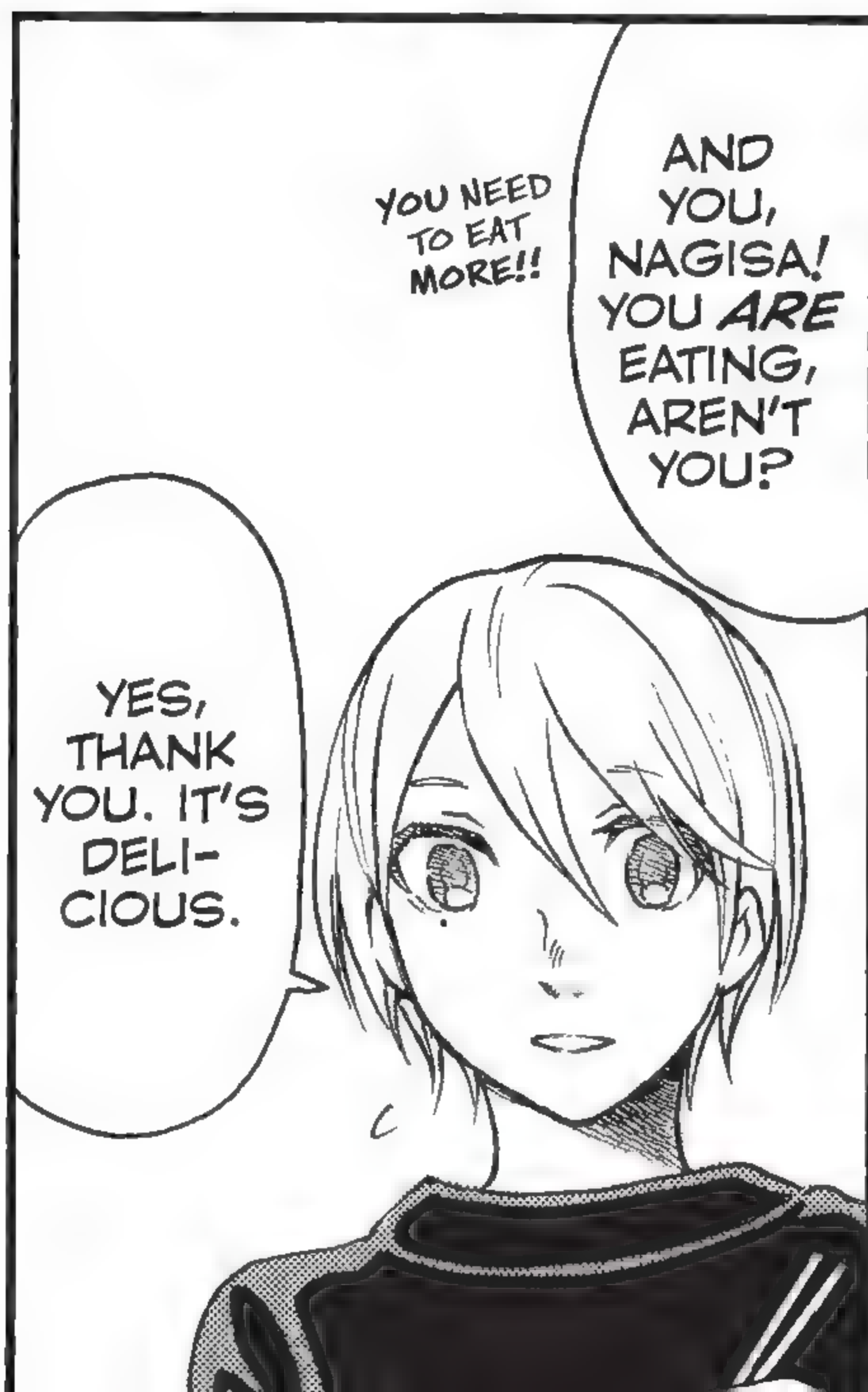














I THOUGHT
IT WOULD
BE NICE TO
MAKE SOME
TREATS FOR
EVERYONE
ONCE IN A
WHILE. AND
THEN...

RIGHT!
WE'RE A
DESIGN
COM-
PANY,
YOU
KNOW?
SO WE
PULL
SOME
LATE
NIGHTS
SOME-
TIMES.



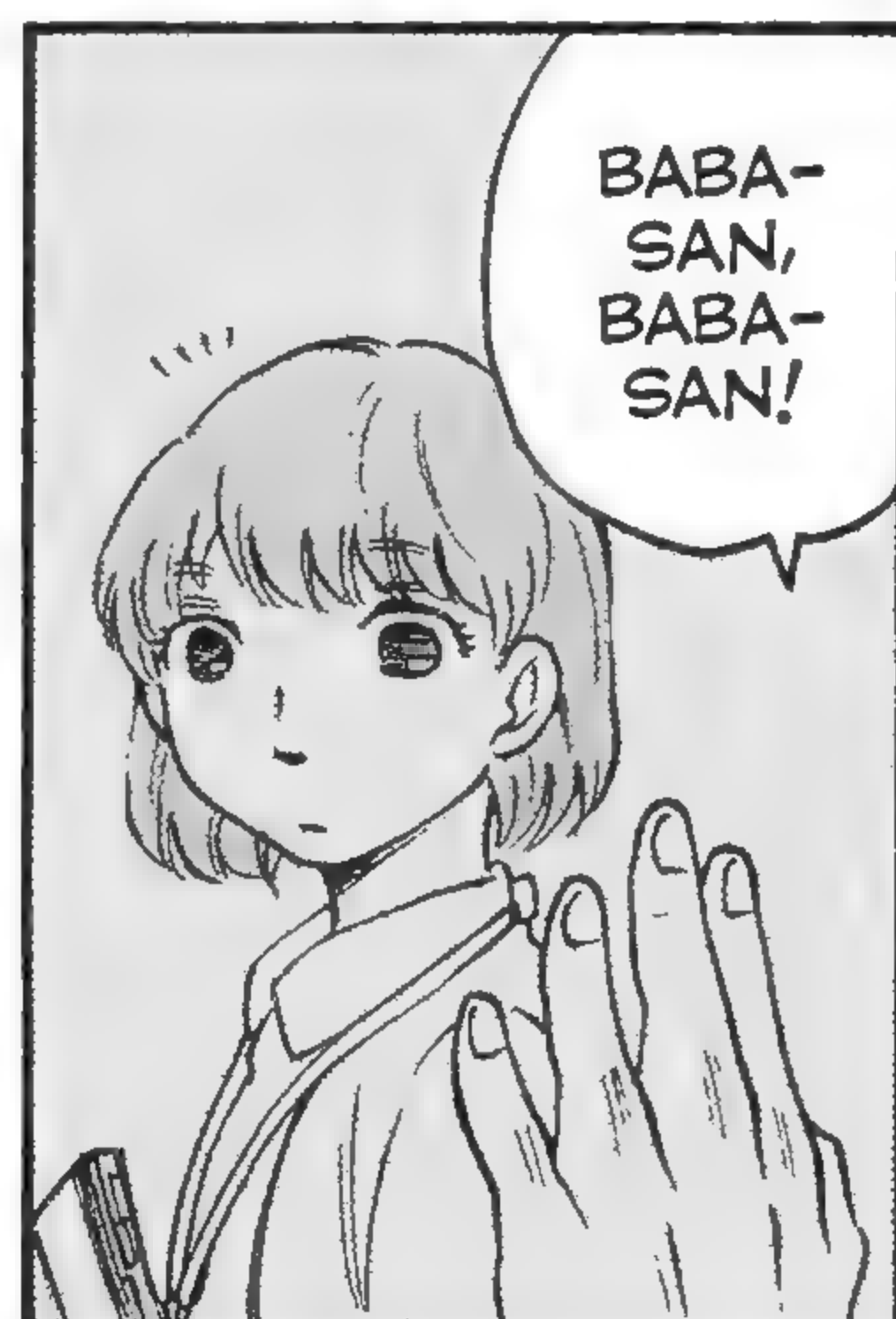
SO...YOU
TWO MET
AT WORK,
RIGHT?



THANKS!

I LIKE 'EM
SWEETER!

THAT
LAST
BATCH
OF
COOKIES
WASN'T
SO
GREAT.



BABA-
SAN,
BABA-
SAN!



WHAT?
I DID?

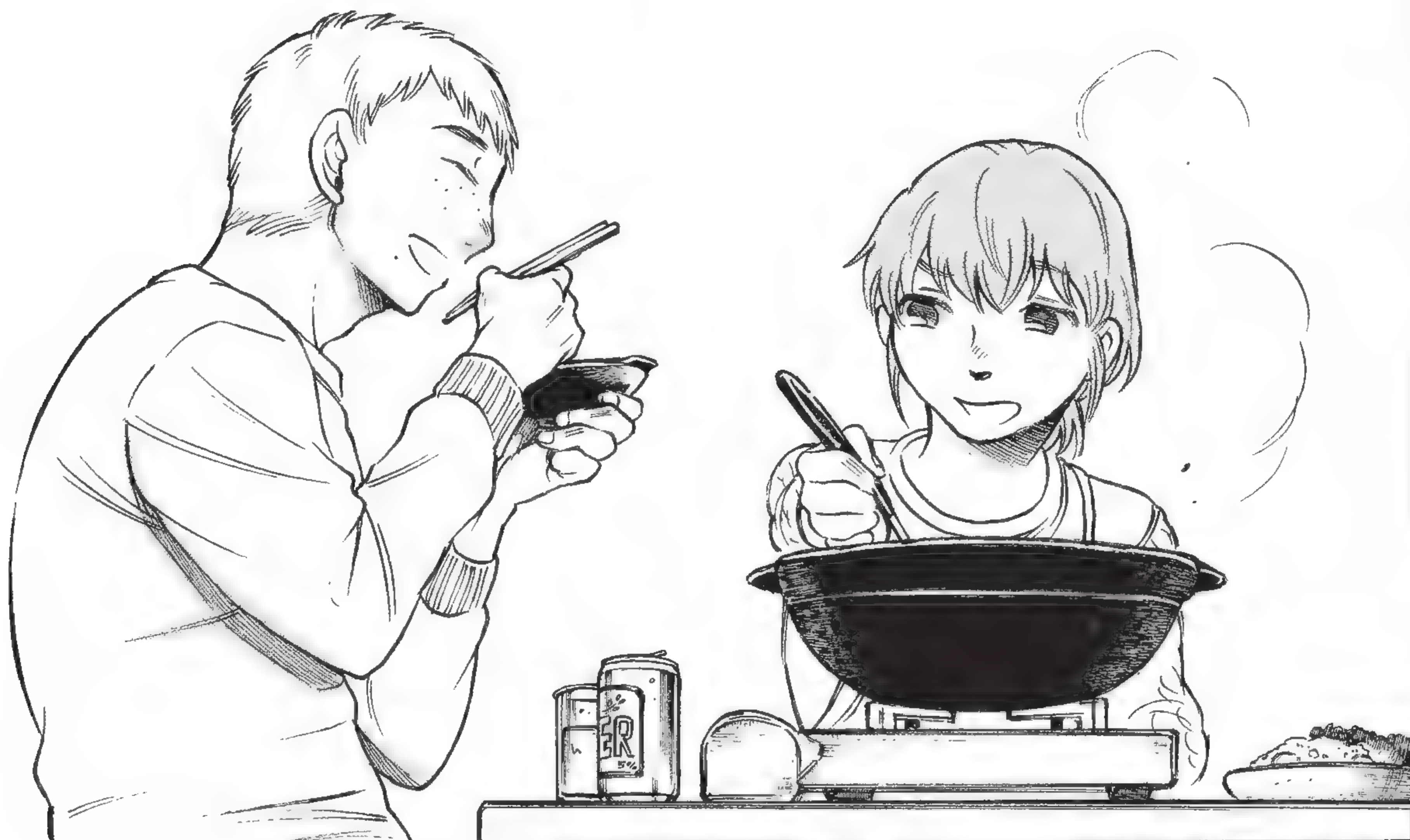
YOU SAID,
"HE SOUNDS
LIKE A NICE,
HONEST
GUY."

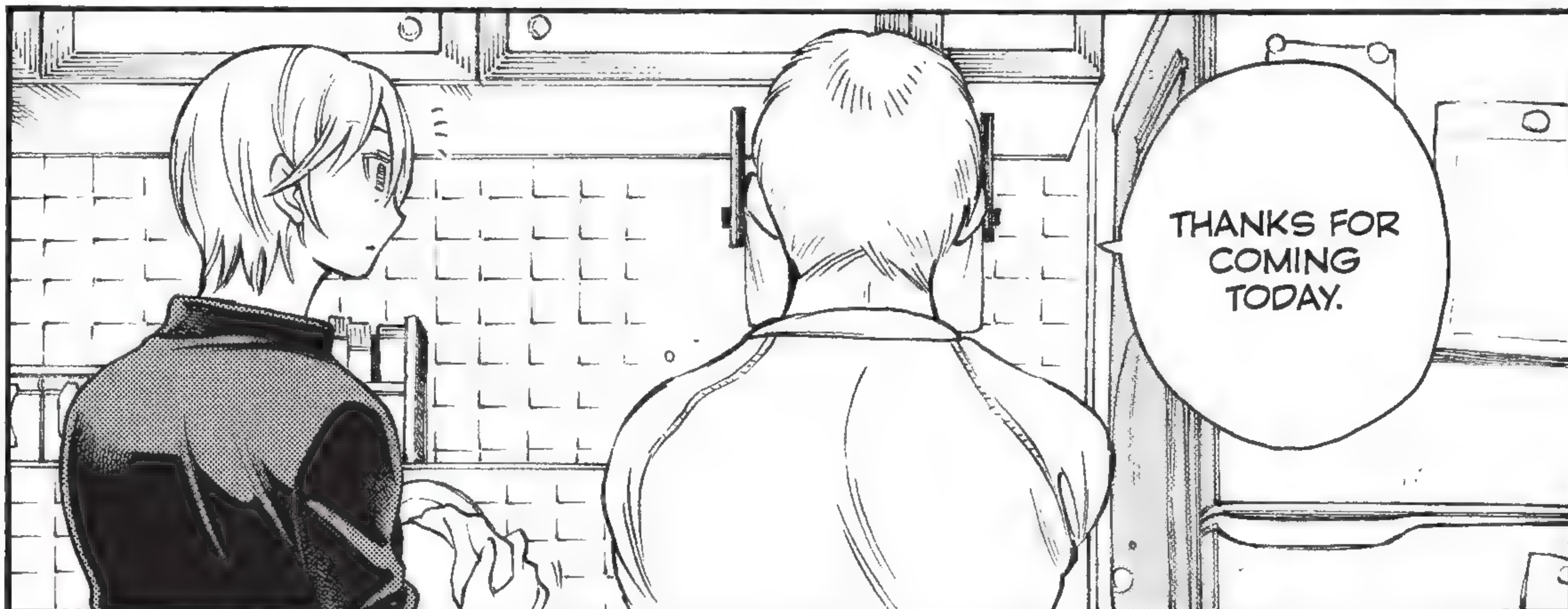
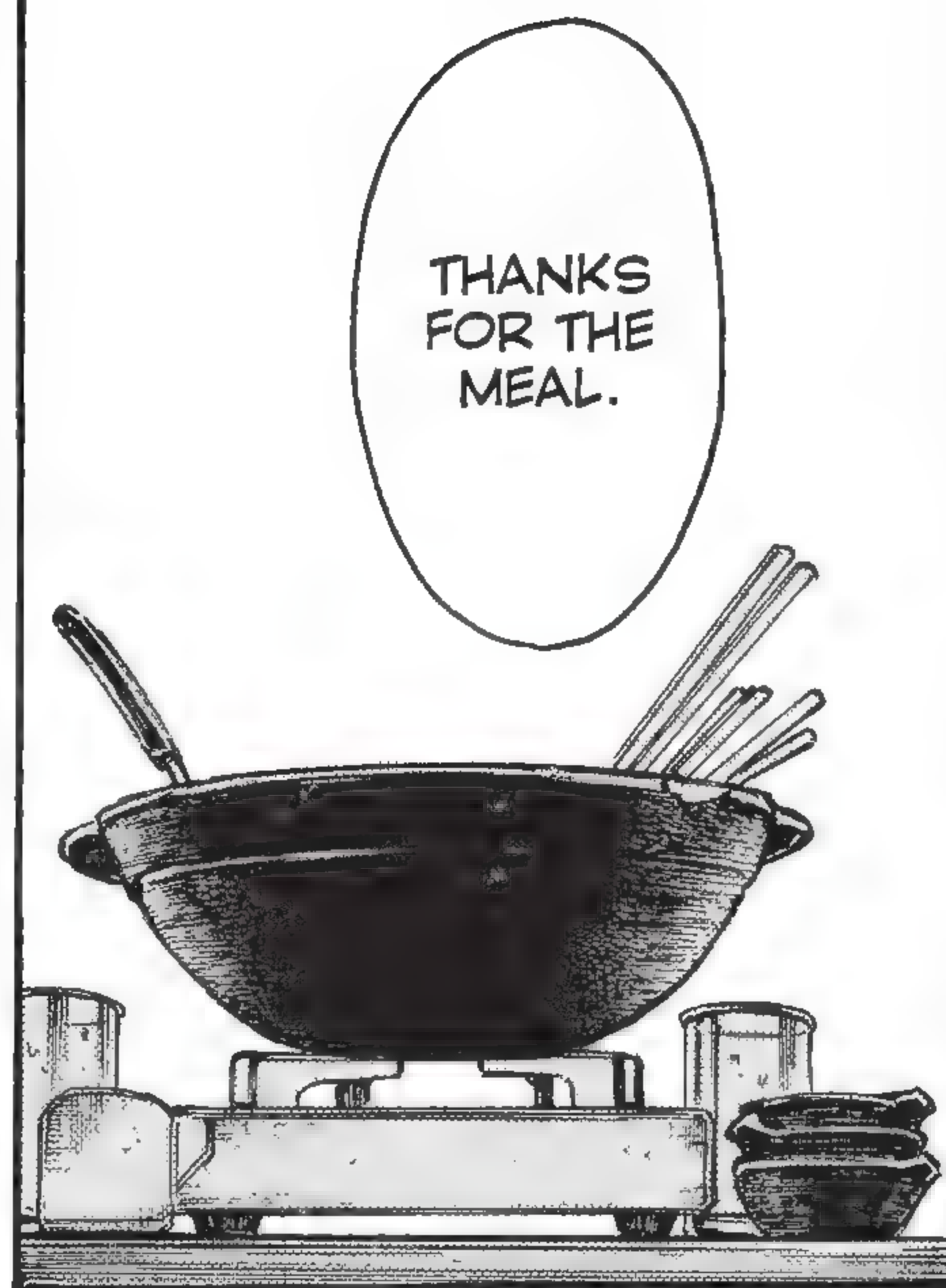
YOU HAVE!
I WAS SO
ANNOYED I
TEXTED YOU
ABOUT IT!
BUT *YOU!*

I LIKE
THE WAY
YOU
THINK,
NAGISA-
SAN.

HA,
HA,
HA.

HUH?
I FEEL
LIKE
I'VE
HEARD
THIS
STORY
BEFORE
...







I THINK SHE'S BEEN FEELING A LITTLE LONELY.

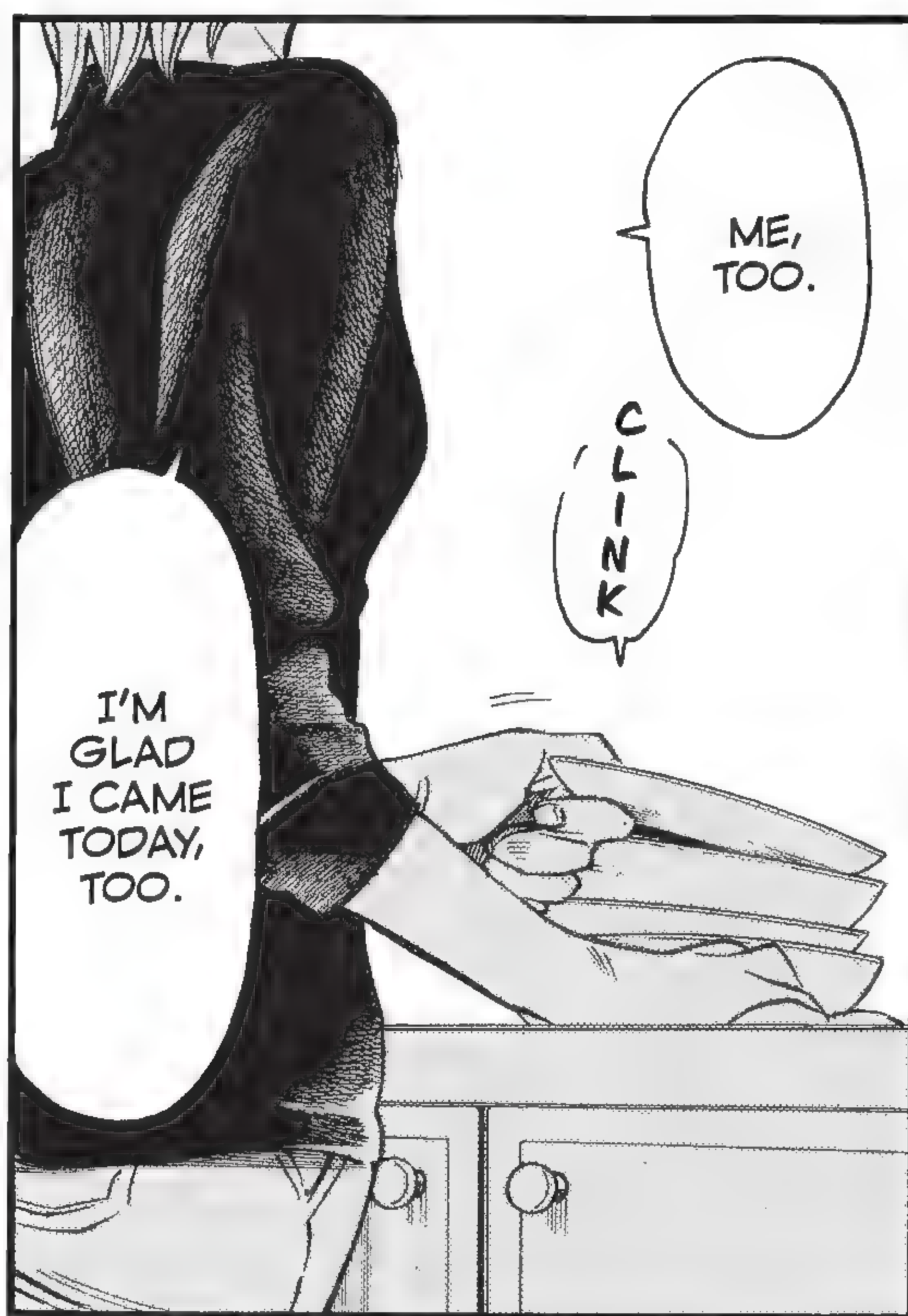
SHE'S WORRIED THAT SHE WON'T HAVE AS MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO HANG OUT WITH HER FRIENDS ONCE WE'RE MARRIED.



I HOPE YOU COME VISIT AGAIN, IF IT'S OKAY.



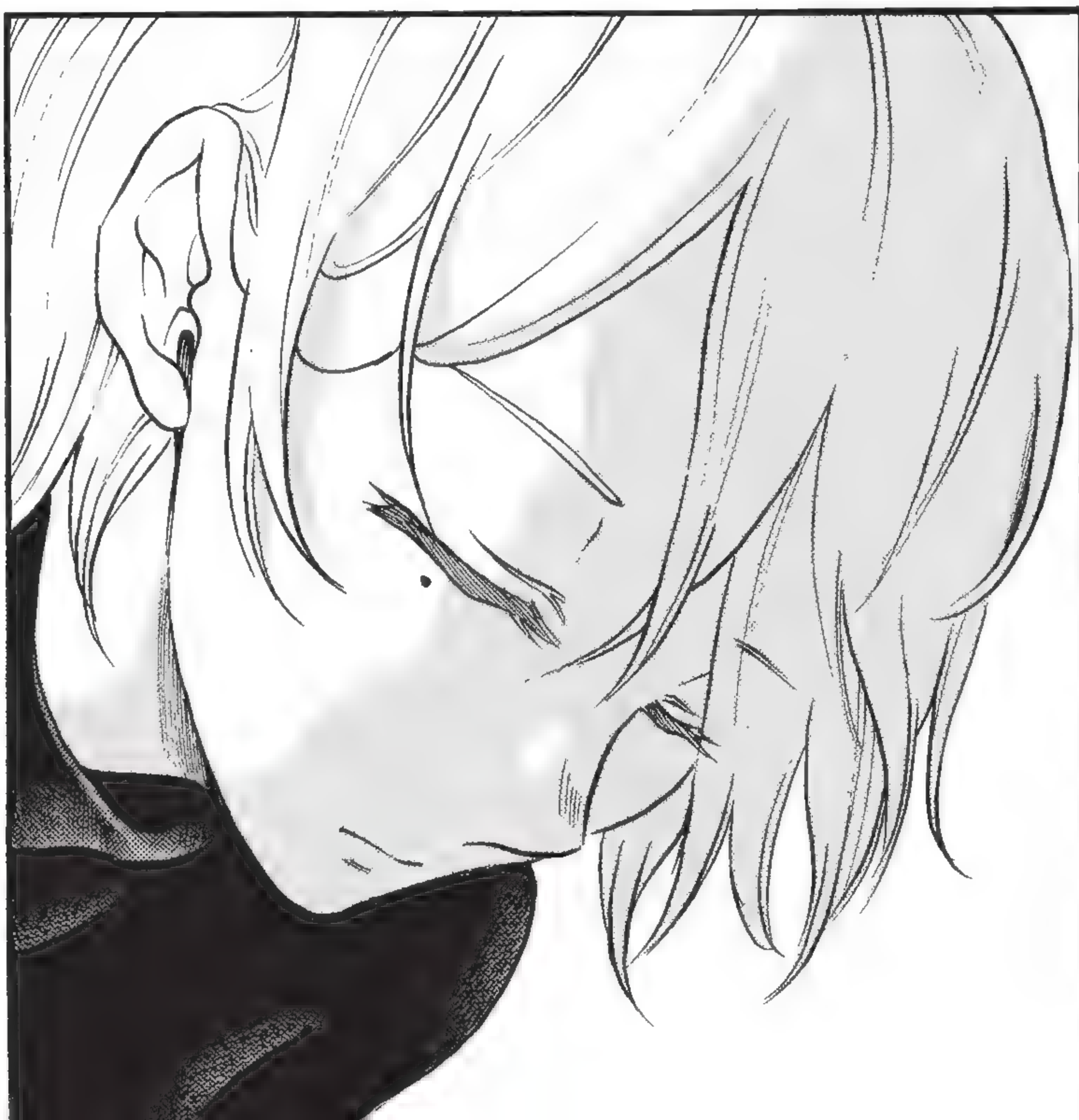
HARUTA-SAN.

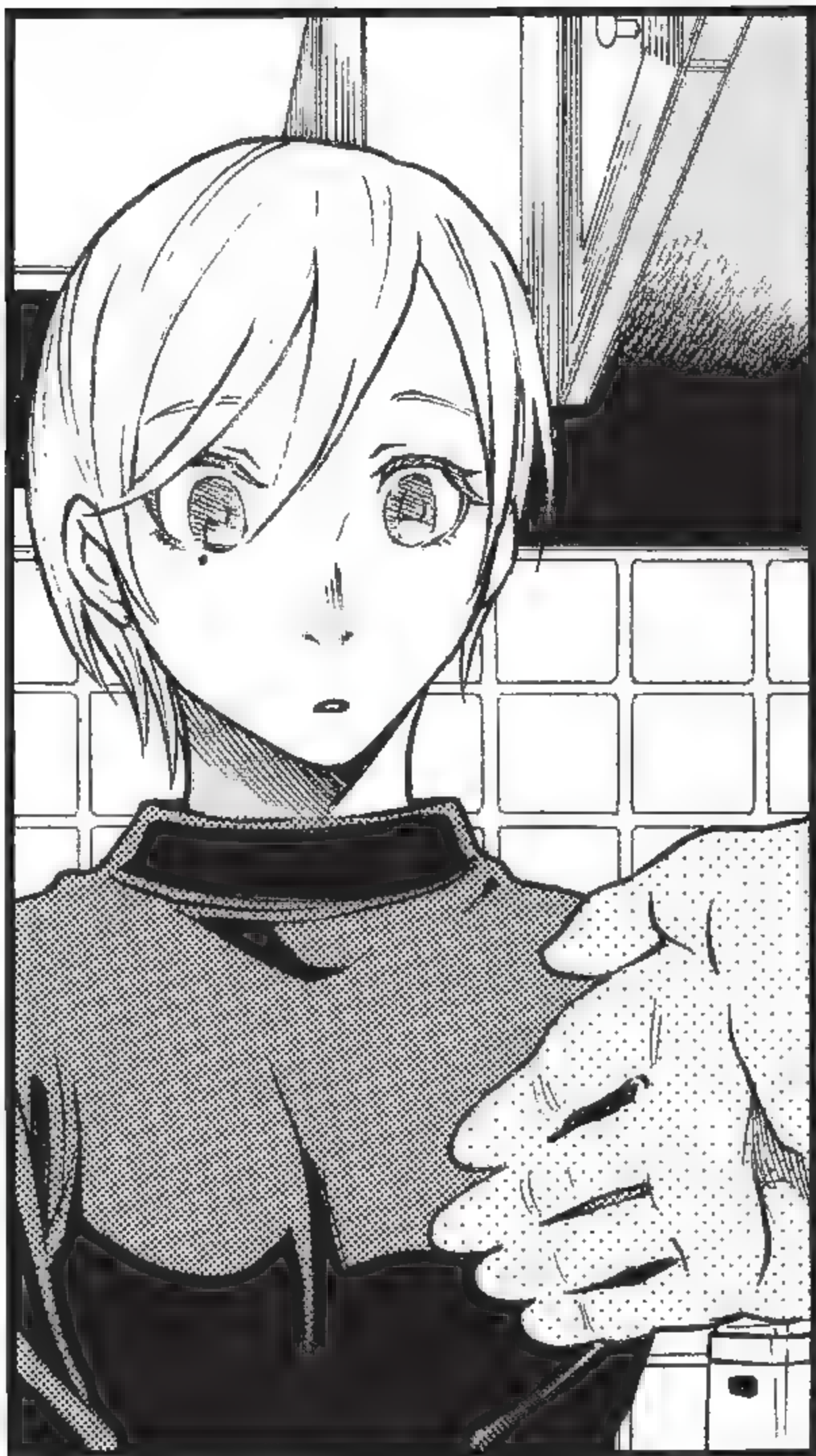


ME, TOO.

CLINK

I'M GLAD I CAME TODAY, TOO.





I HOPE
YOU'LL
ALWAYS
BE
FRIENDS
WITH
KIMI-
CHAN,
TOO.



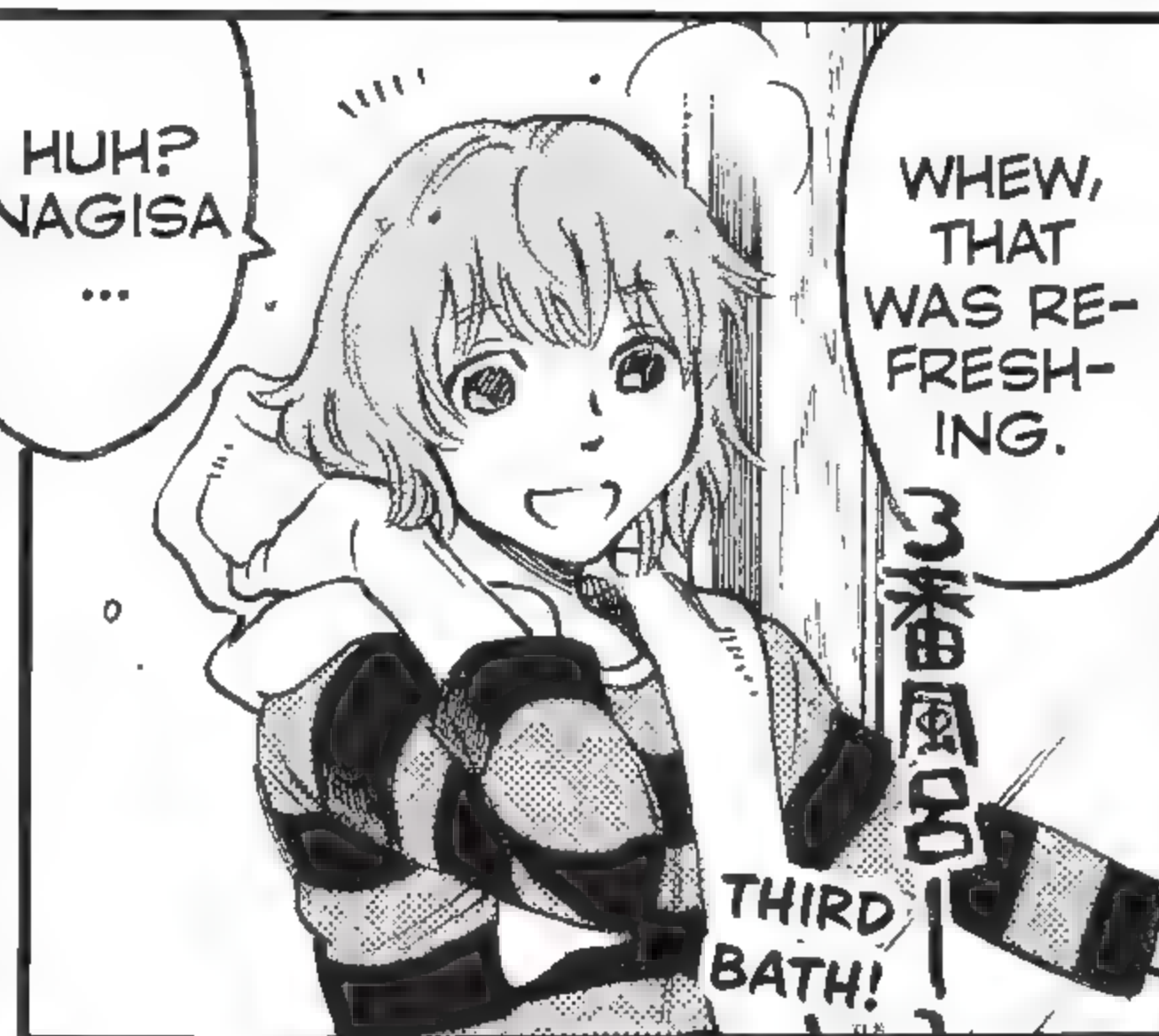
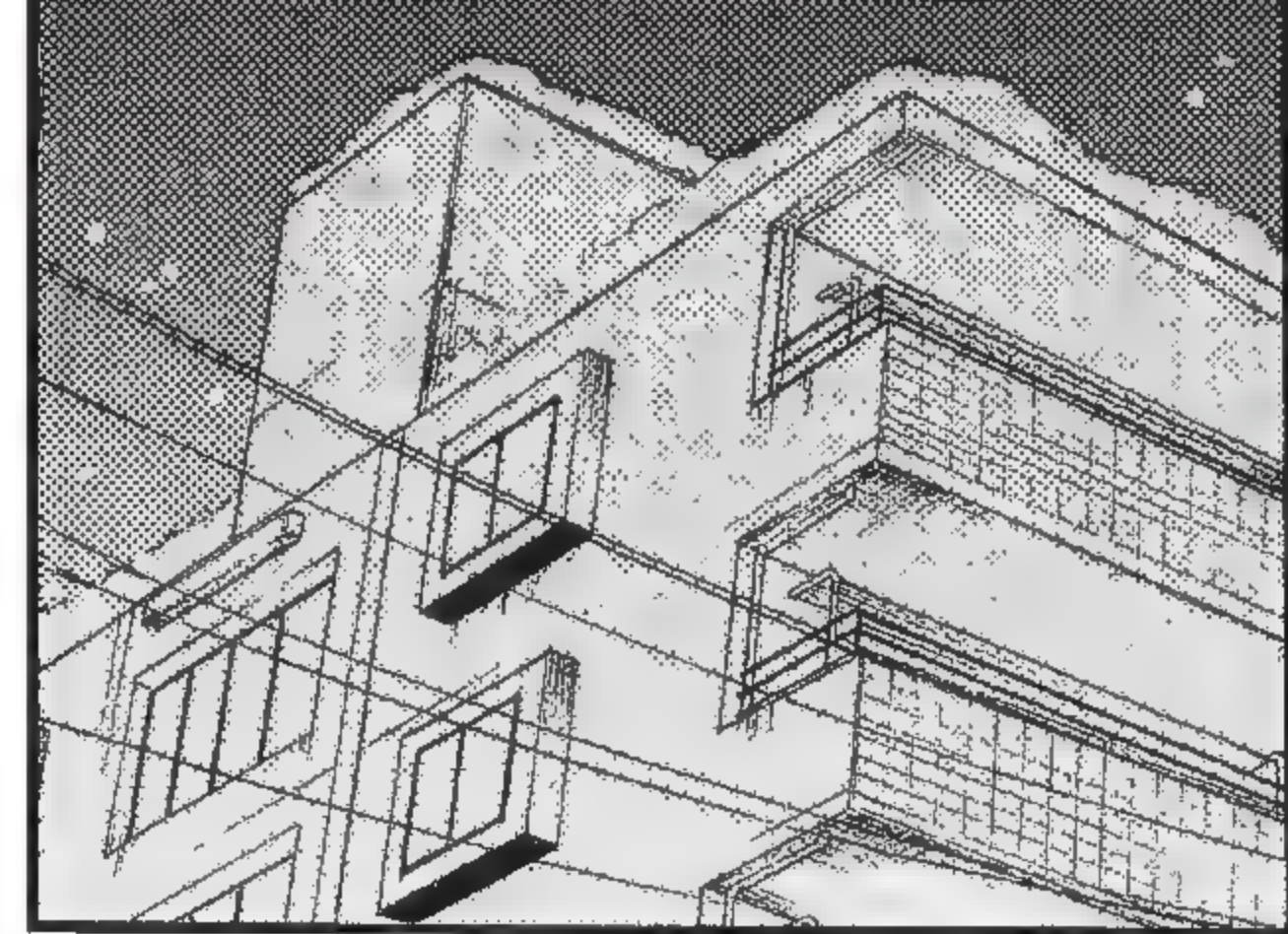
YES.

I'M
HAPPY
FOR
YOU..



I'LL BE
GLAD
TO.

I REALLY
AM HAPPY
FOR YOU,
KIMIKO.





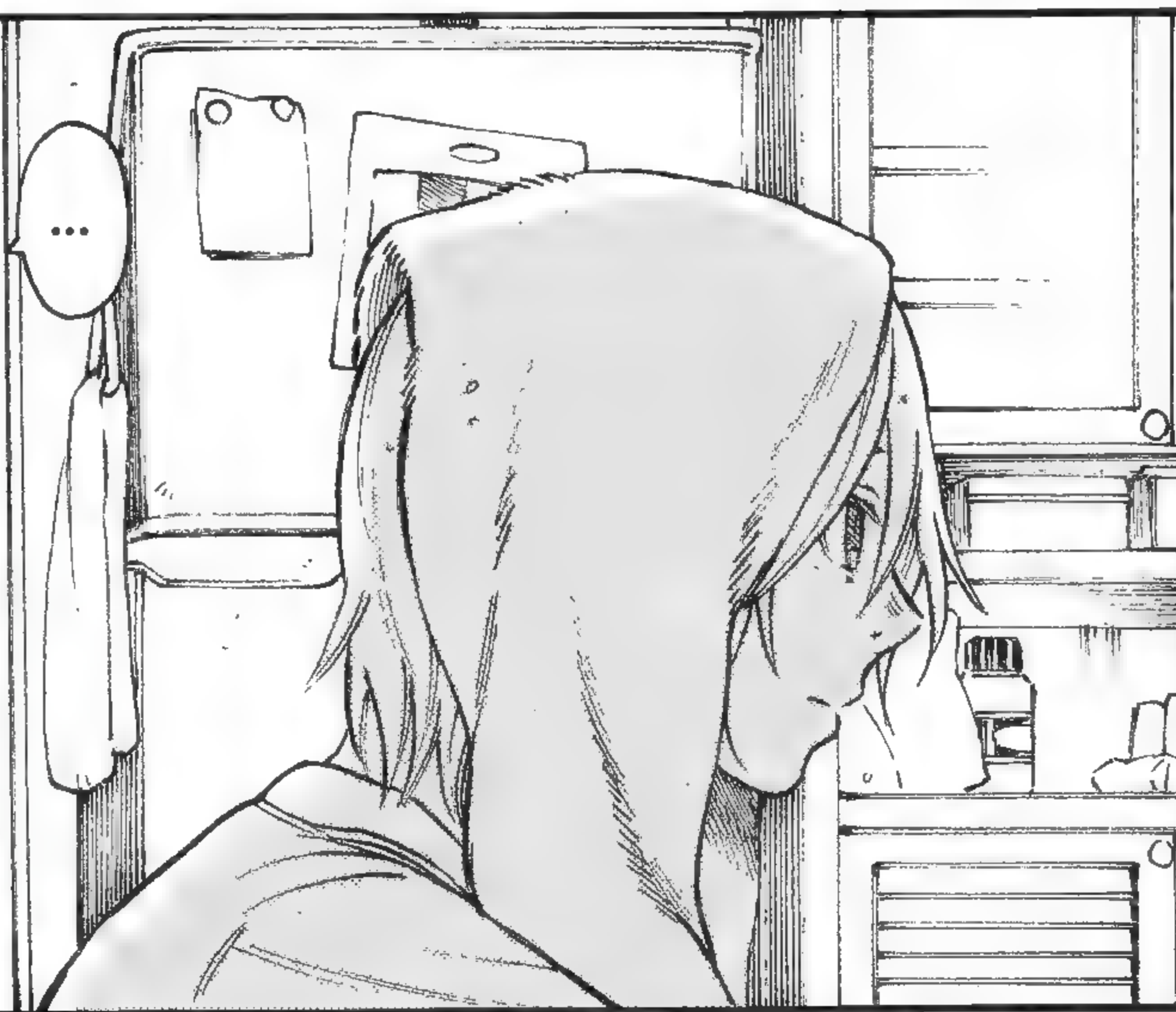
A
LOT OF
THINGS.



I WANTED
TO TALK
TO YOU
ABOUT
SOME-
THING.



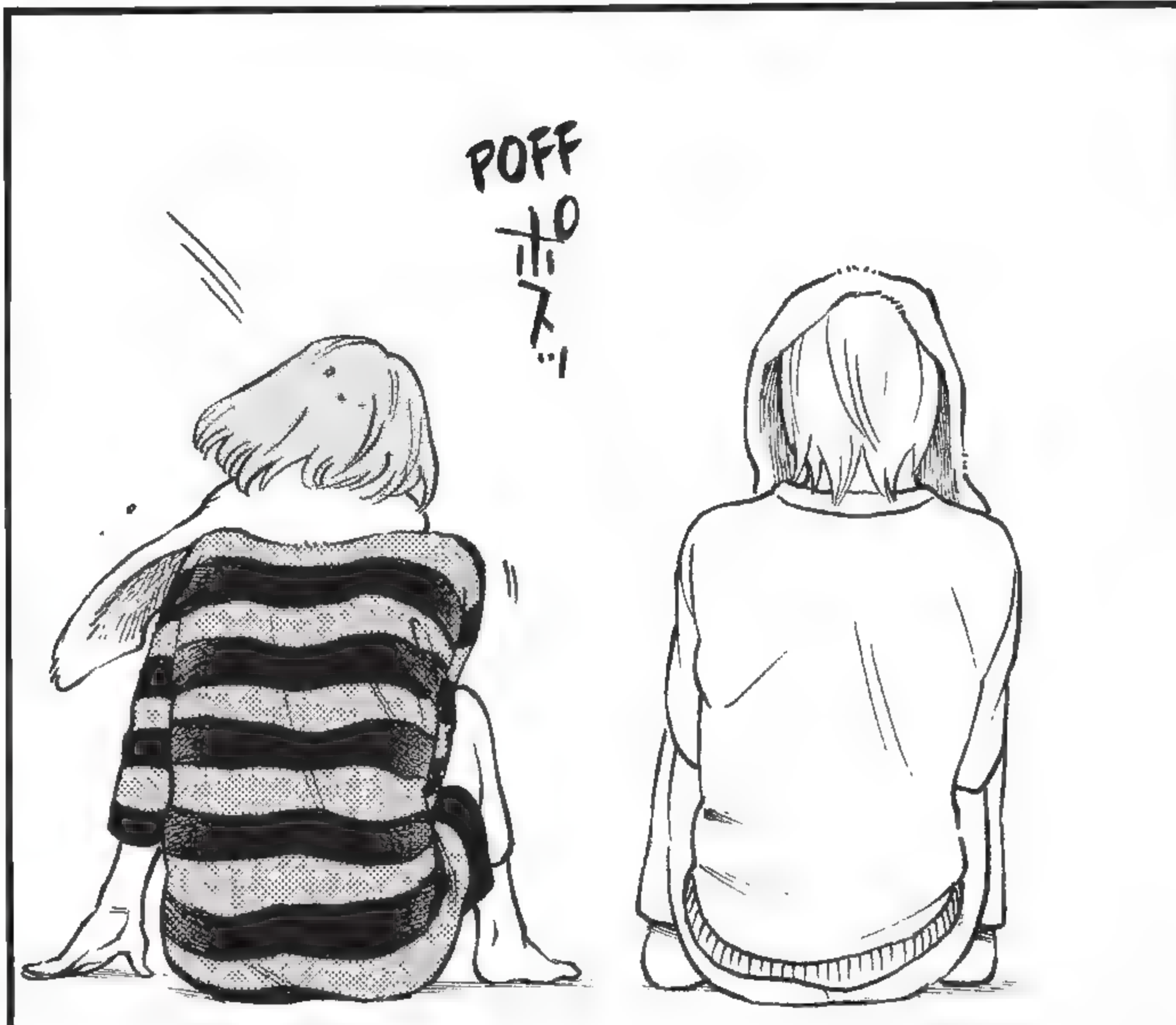
YEAH.



...



I'M
SORRY.

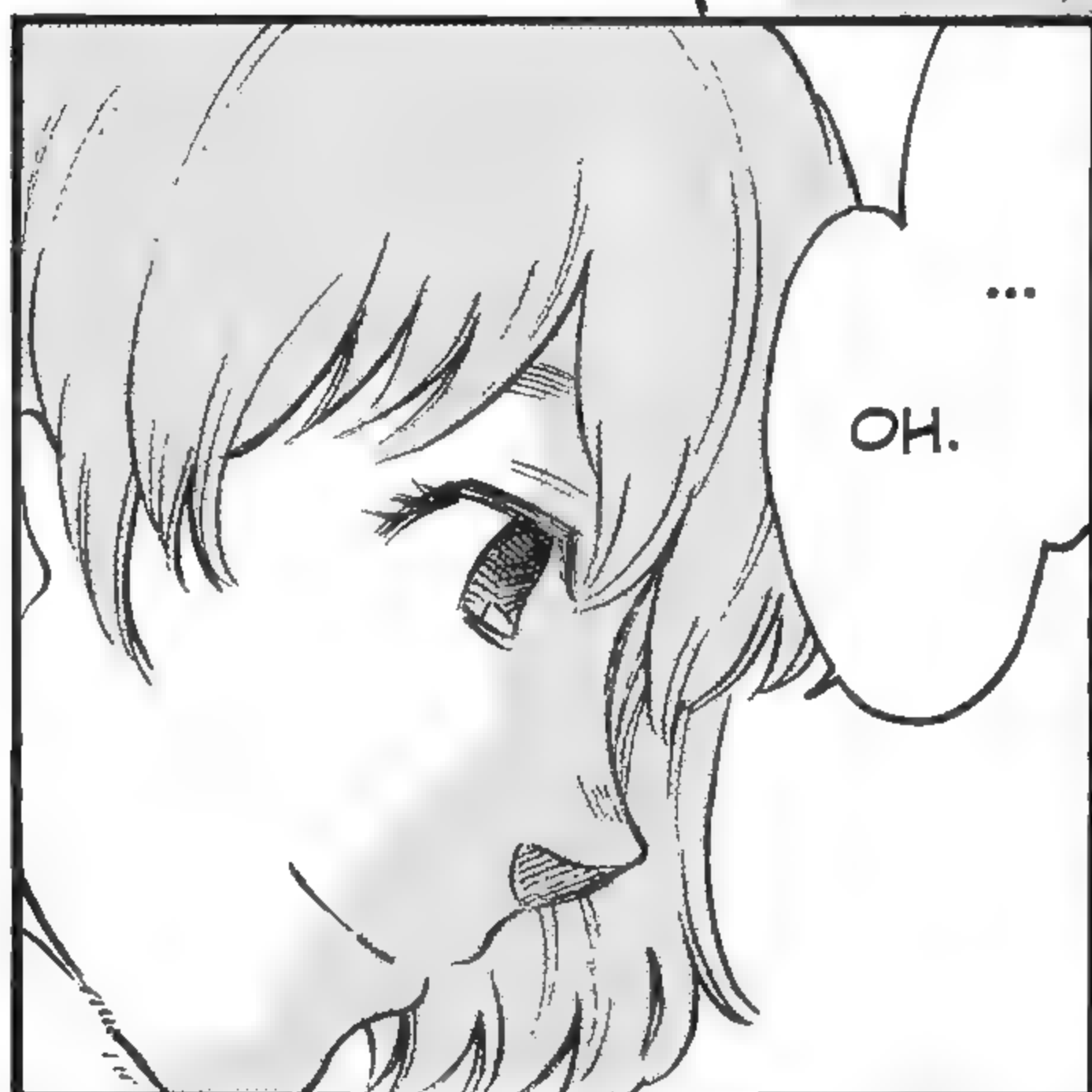


POFF
ポフッ



...I
HEARD
YOU.

THE
TRUTH
IS...



...
OH.



I THINK
I'M GOING
TO STOP
COSPLAYING.

WHAT YOU
SAID THAT
NIGHT.

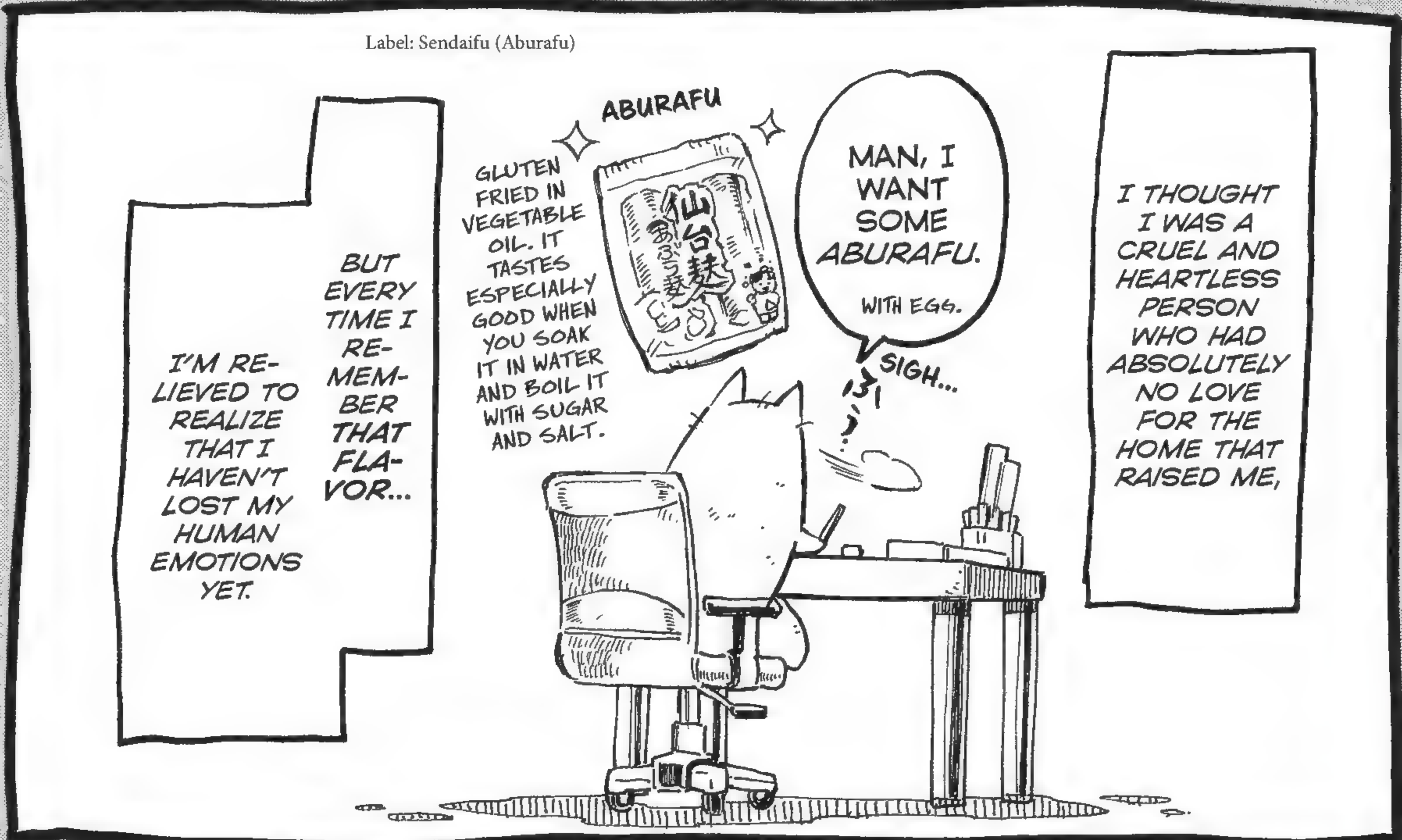


WHY...
WOULD YOU
QUIT?



SO...
KIMI-
KO.

n.39 ▶▶▶▶▶ n.40





WHY WOULD
YOU GIVE UP
COSPLAY?

n.40
Complex age



IF I HAD
BEEN IN
YOUR
SHOES,
I MIGHT
HAVE
STOPPED
BREATH-
ING.

I GUESS IT
WOULD BE
A SHOCK,
HEARING
THAT OUT OF
THE BLUE,
WITHOUT ANY
EXPLANATION.

YEAH.

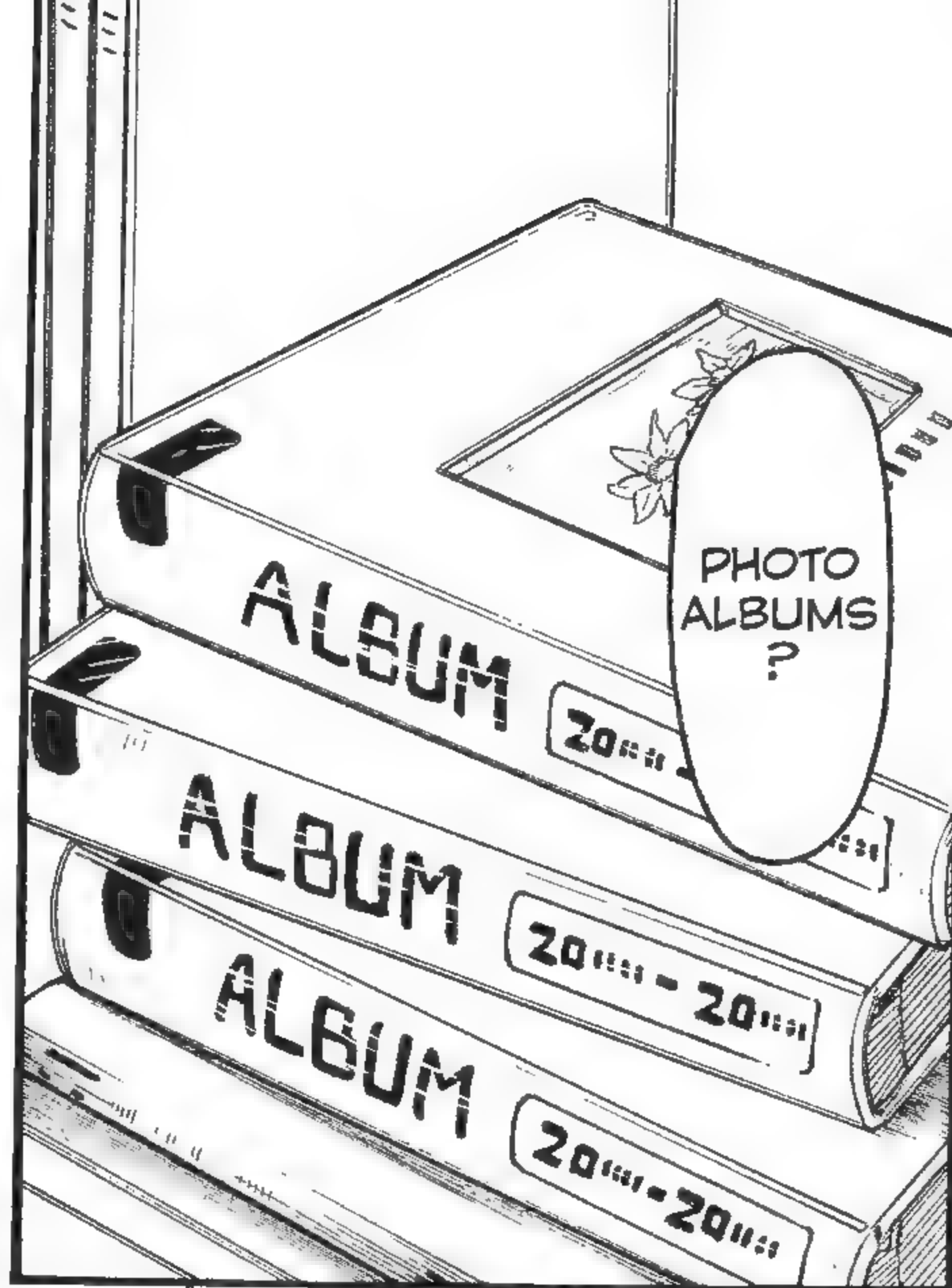


NAGI-
SA.
COME
WITH ME.



I MEAN, IT
WILL MAKE
THINGS A LOT
HARDER, BUT
IT WOULDN'T
MAKE IT *IM-
POSSIBLE*
TO KEEP COS-
PLAYING.

BUT
IT'S NOT
BECAUSE
I'M GET-
TING
MAR-
RIED.





AND I WANT
TO TAKE
BETTER
PICTURES.

DIFFERENT
THINGS,
DIFFERENT
PEOPLE,
DIFFERENT
PLACES.

I STARTED
WANTING
TO TAKE
PICTURES
OF EVERY-
THING—



OOHH...

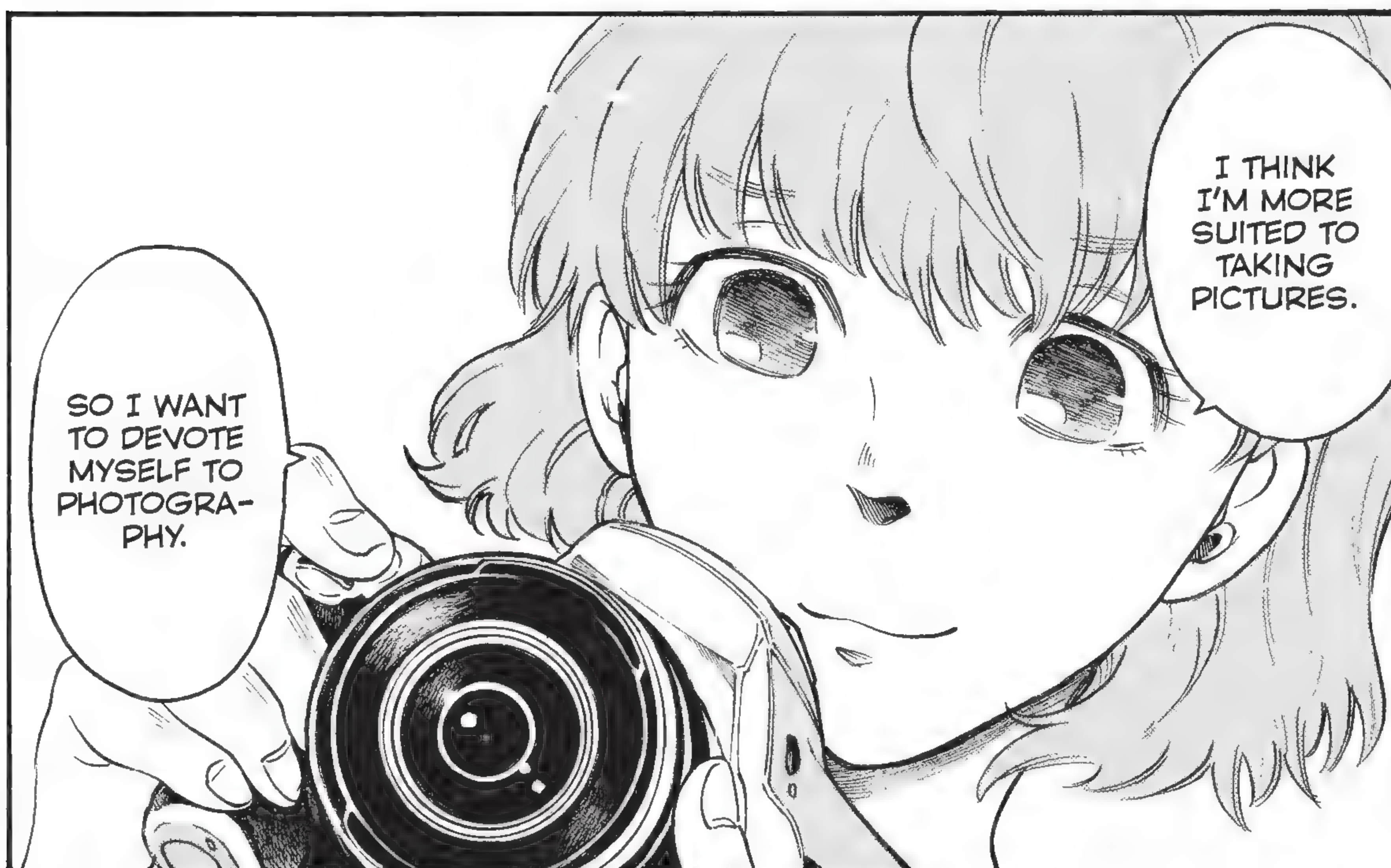
I FEEL
LIKE I'VE
SEEN THIS
BEFORE...

AND I DIDN'T
TELL HARUTA
ABOUT SOME
OF THESE,
SO IF YOU
WOULD JUST
KEEP IT TO
YOURSELF...

EH HEH HEH HEH...

えへへへ...

THE NEXT
THING I
KNEW, I HAD
ALL THIS
EQUIPMENT.



SO I WANT
TO DEVOTE
MYSELF TO
PHOTOGRA-
PHY.

I THINK
I'M MORE
SUITED TO
TAKING
PICTURES.



I WAS SO WORRIED THAT YOU WERE GOING TO STOP GOING TO EVENTS ALTOGETHER...



YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.



YEAH ...



I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 10 YEARS! YOU WON'T GET RID OF ME THAT EASILY.

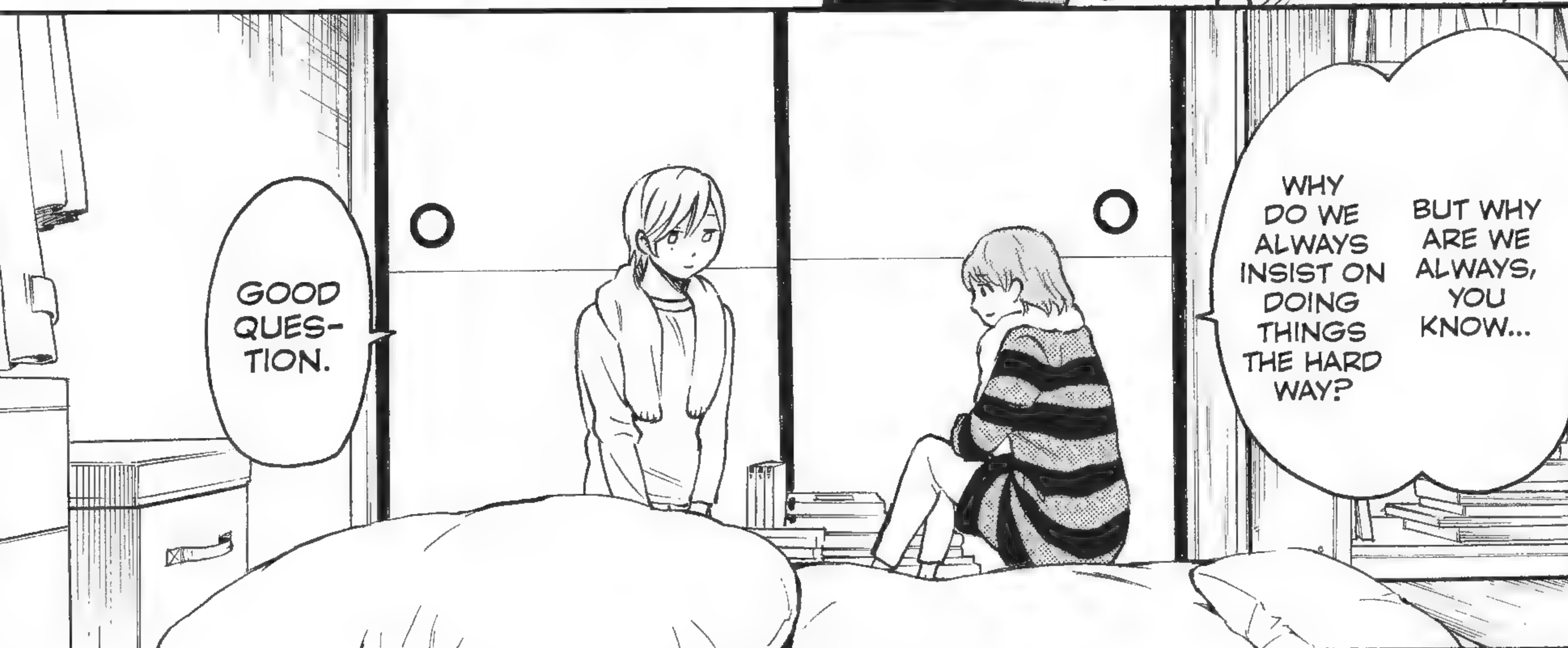
I COULD NEVER GIVE THEM UP COLD TURKEY!

HA, HA, HA!

BAM
はっ

はっ BAM

THAT HURTS.



GOOD QUESTION.

WHY DO WE ALWAYS INSIST ON DOING THINGS THE HARD WAY?

BUT WHY ARE WE ALWAYS, YOU KNOW...



THERE'S NO RIGHT ANSWER, AND YOU'RE NEVER TECHNICALLY FINISHED.

LIKE DRAWING... I THINK THAT MIGHT BE CLOSER TO PHOTOGRAPHY.

IF IT'S ONLY ABOUT FUN, THEN IT STARTS TO FEEL LIKE SOMETHING IS MISSING SOMEHOW.



BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING THERE'S SOMETHING EVEN BETTER

...
BEYOND ALL THE PAIN.

WE PULL ALL-NIGHTERS, DIET AND EXERCISE, WEAR SKIMPY CLOTHING IN THE FREEZING COLD...

THE OLDER I GET, THE MORE I WONDER WHAT I'M DOING WITH MYSELF.



YEAH.

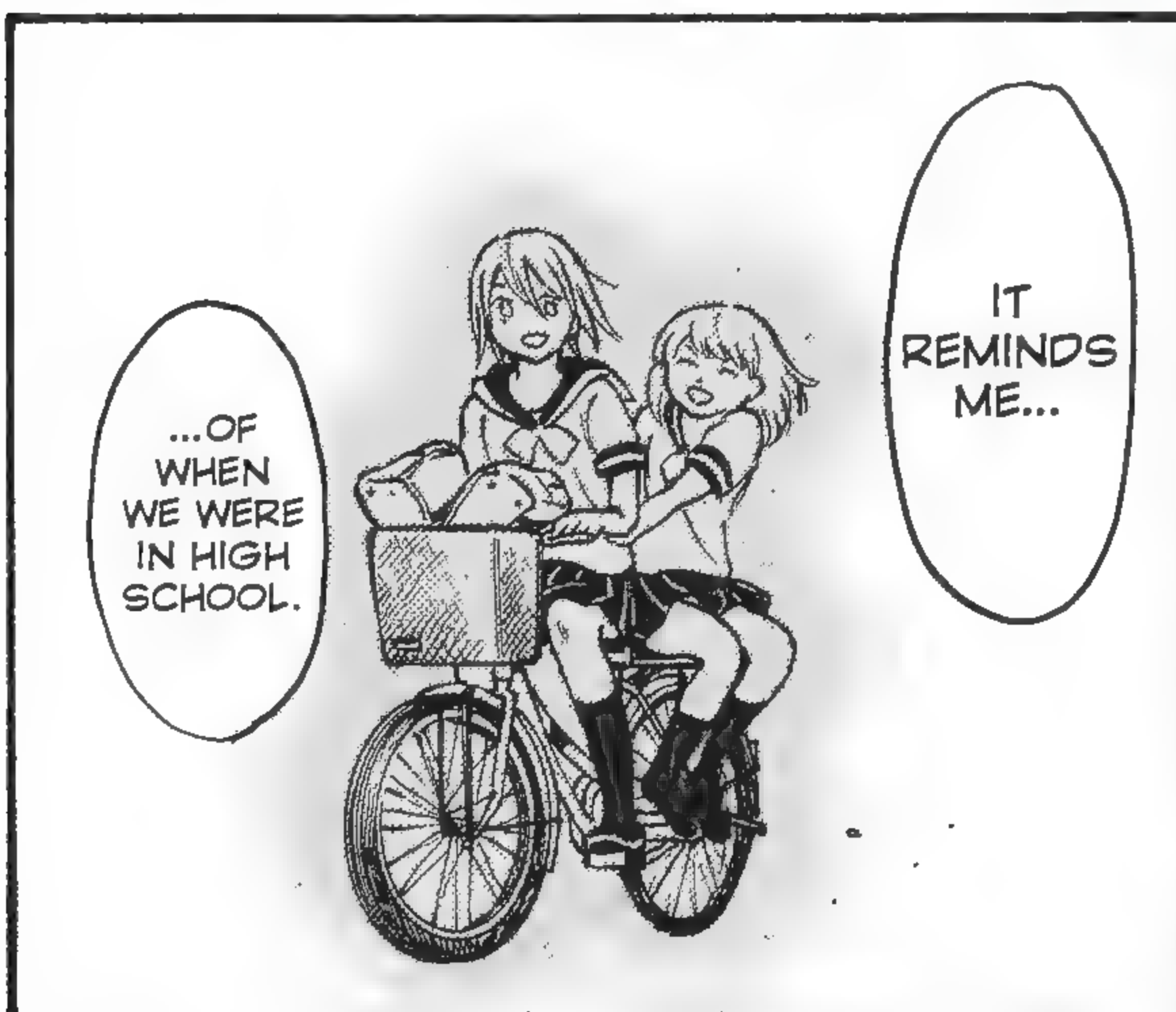
IT'S A HOBBY, SO IT SHOULD BE ENOUGH JUST TO HAVE FUN.



THEY'RE
MAKING THE
MOST OUT OF
DOING WHAT
THEY LOVE,
WITHOUT
TORTURING
THEMSELVES.



THE
GIRLS
...
ESPE-
CIAL-
LY
SHIHO-
CHAN.
I THINK
THEY
MIGHT
FEEL THAT
WAY.



...OF
WHEN
WE WERE
IN HIGH
SCHOOL.

IT
REMINDS
ME...



"NOW"
IS THE
BEST FOR
THEM.

EVERY-
THING IS
SO NEW
TO THEM.



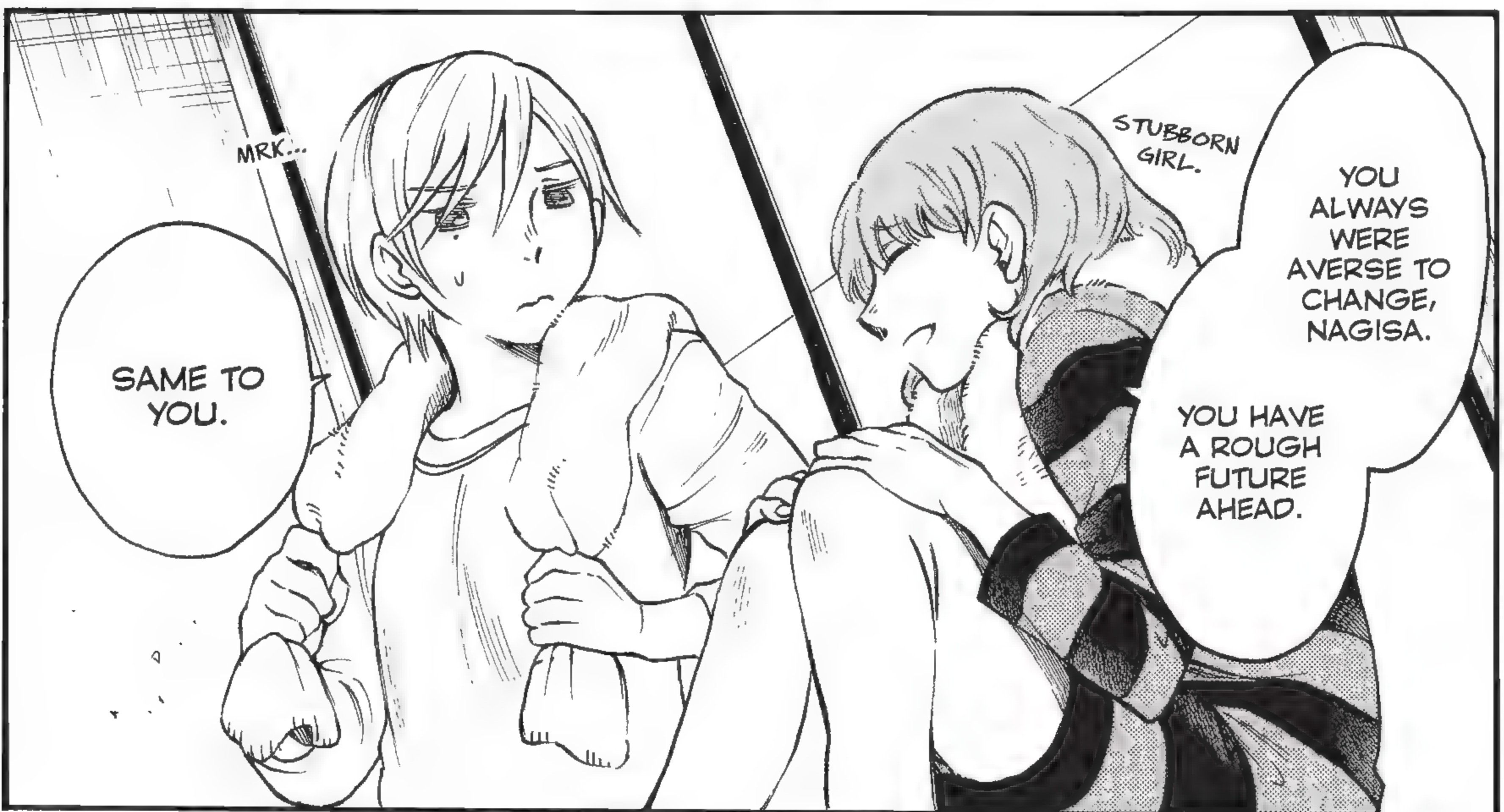
NO.



TO
THOSE
DAYS.



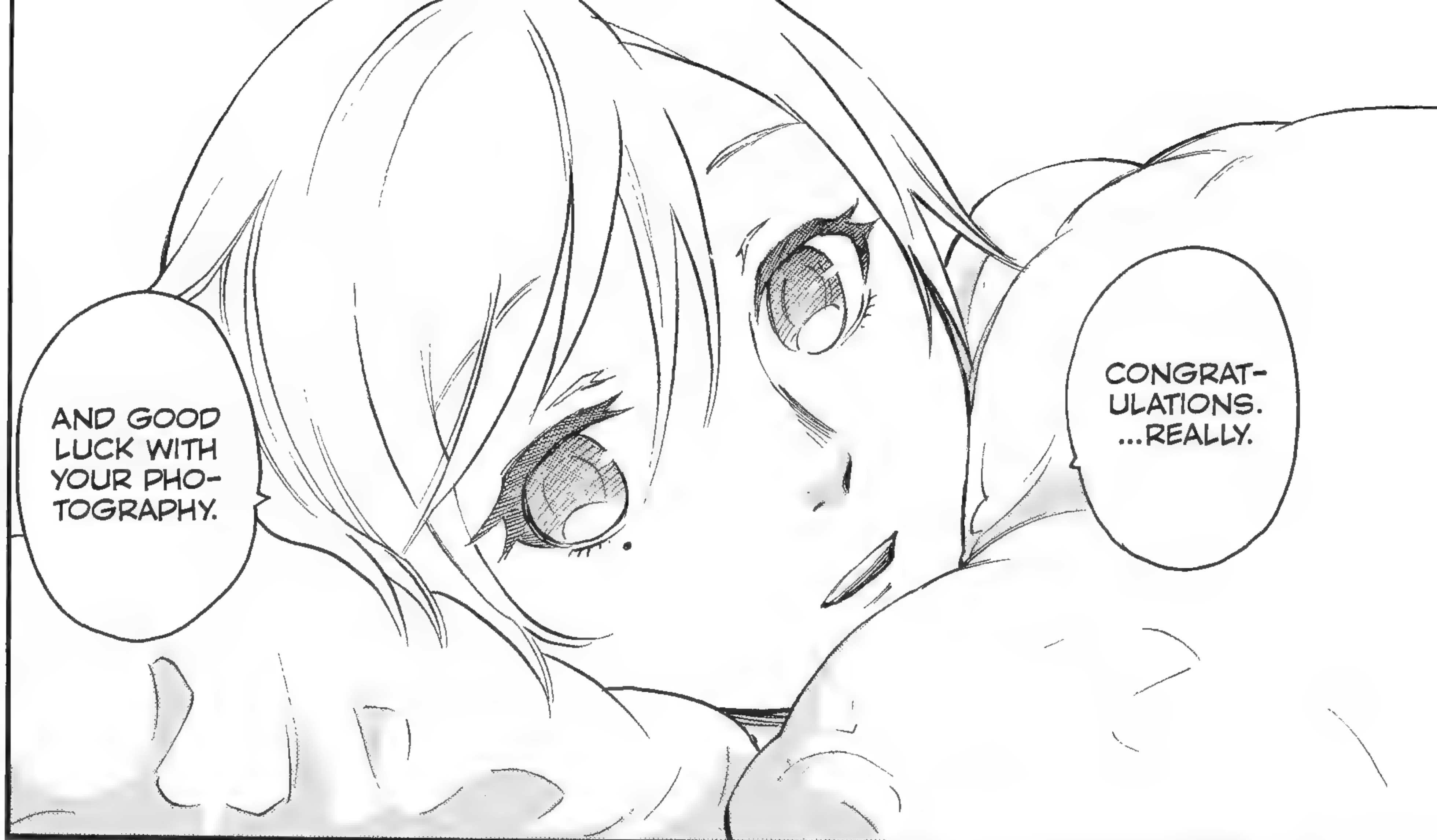
DO YOU
WISH...
WE
COULD
GO
BACK?





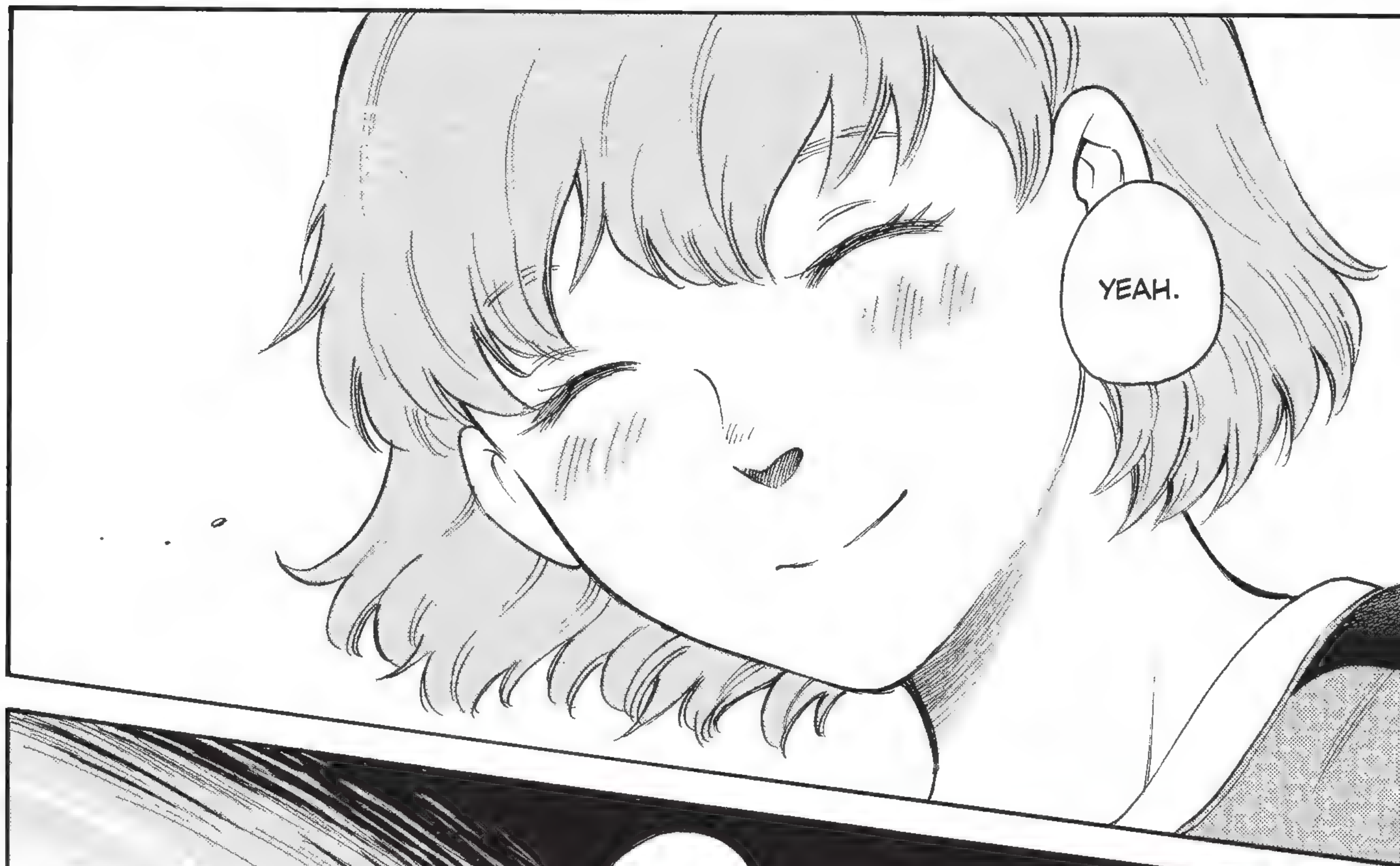
*Roasted green tea





AND GOOD
LUCK WITH
YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY.

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS.
...REALLY.

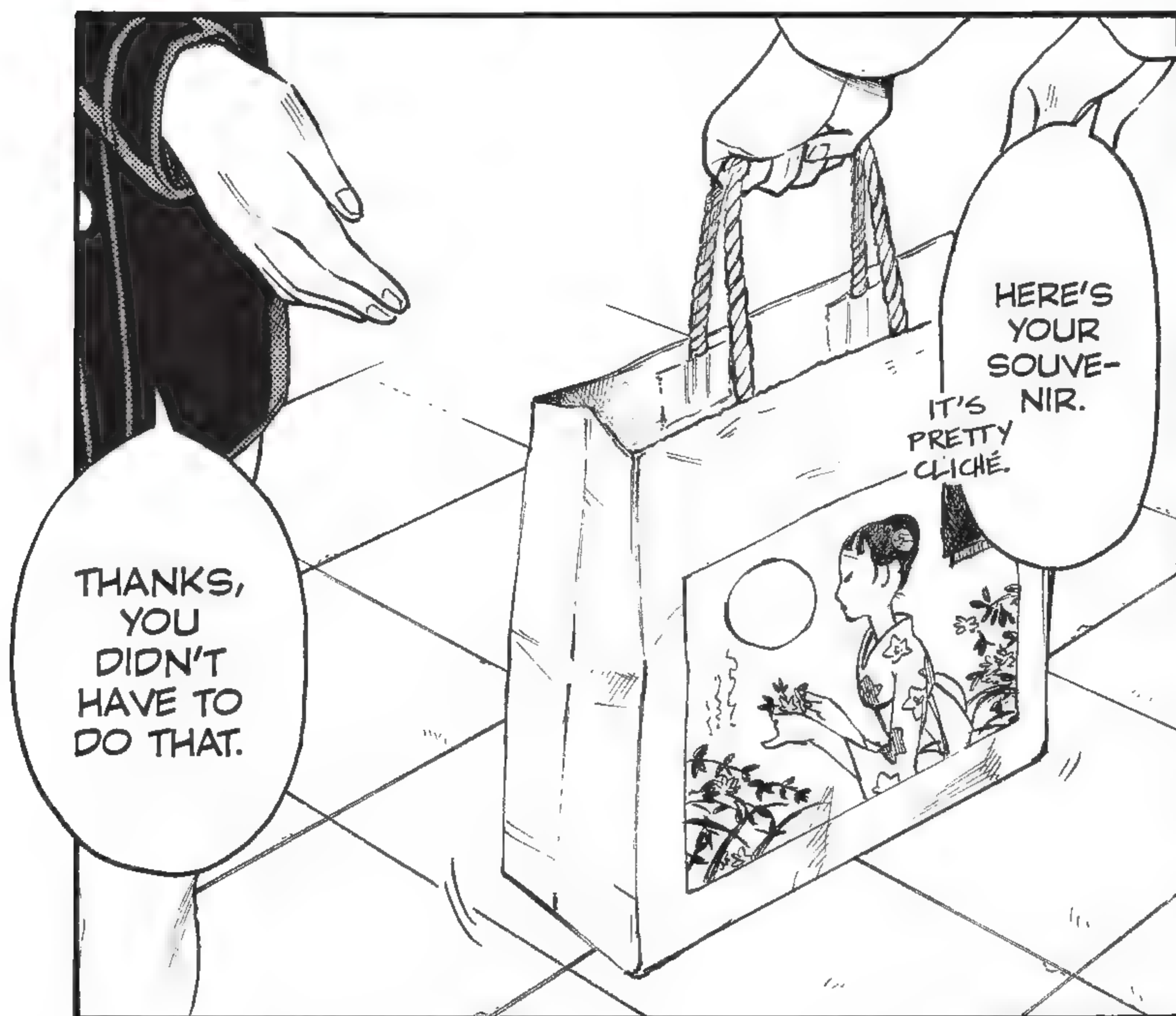


YEAH.



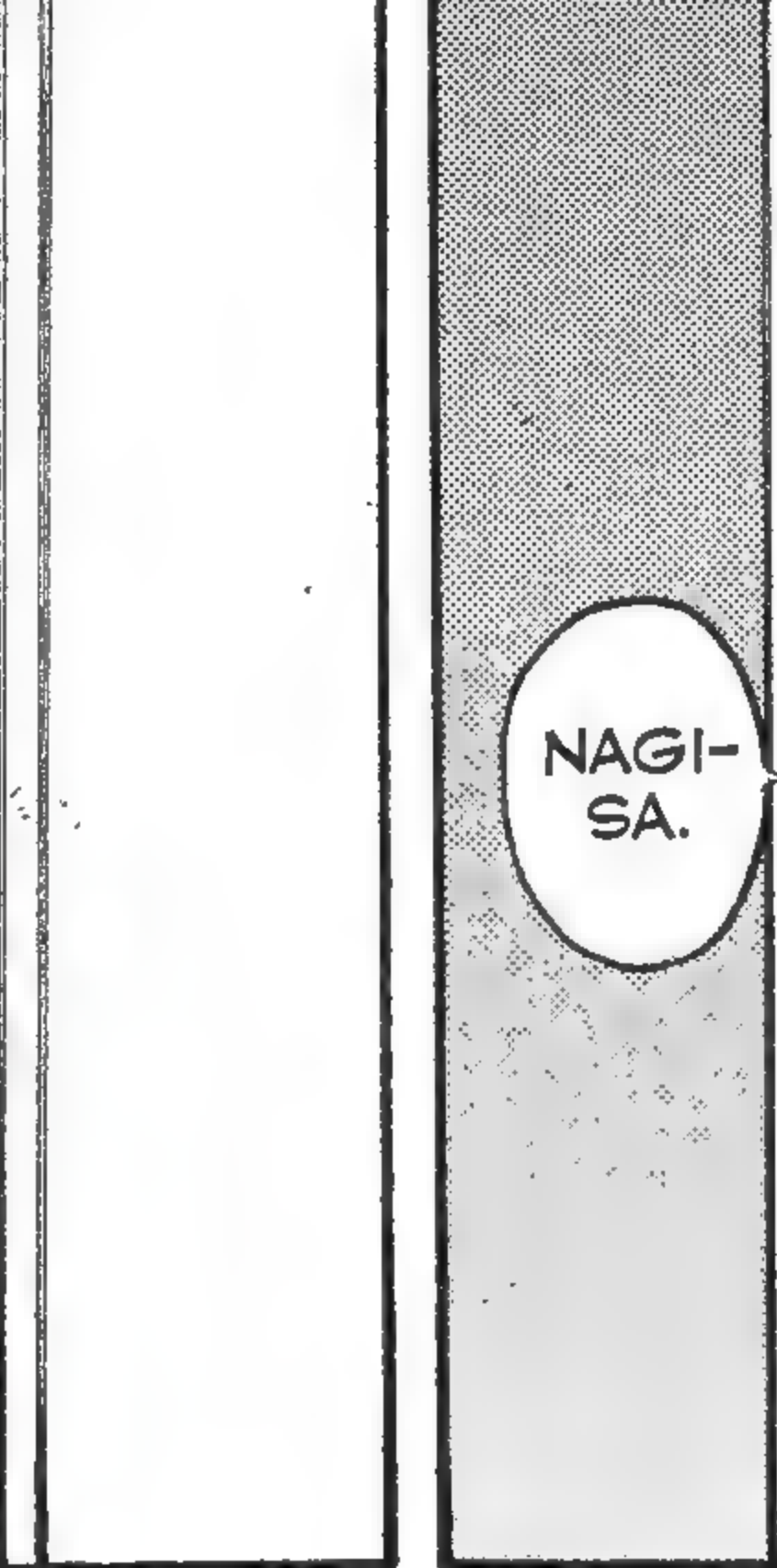
CLICK...

THANKS.

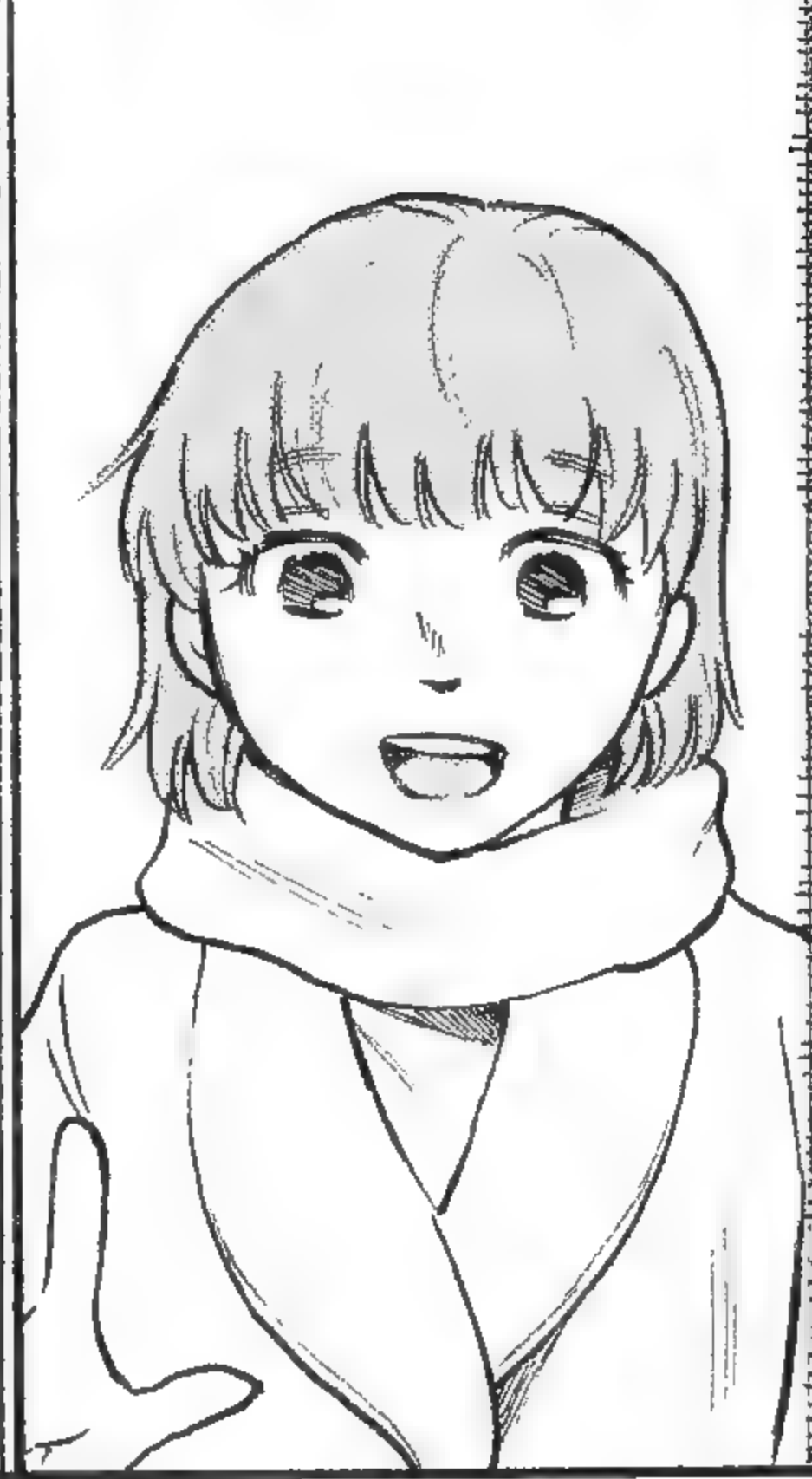




YEAH,
LATER.



NAGI-
SA.

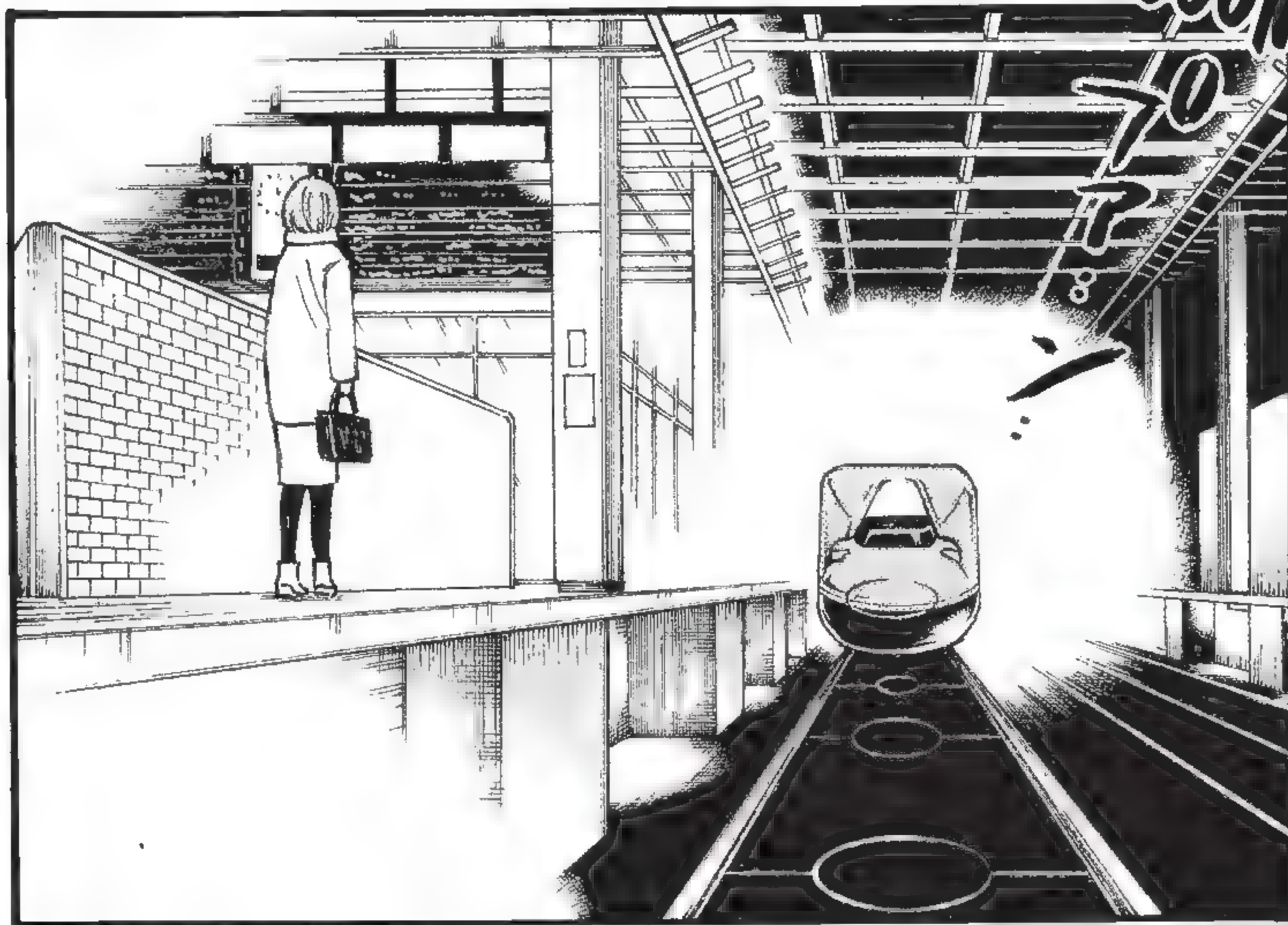


SEE
YOU
LATER,

HOOONK...



...



SHE DIDN'T
FIGURE ME
OUT.

WHEW.

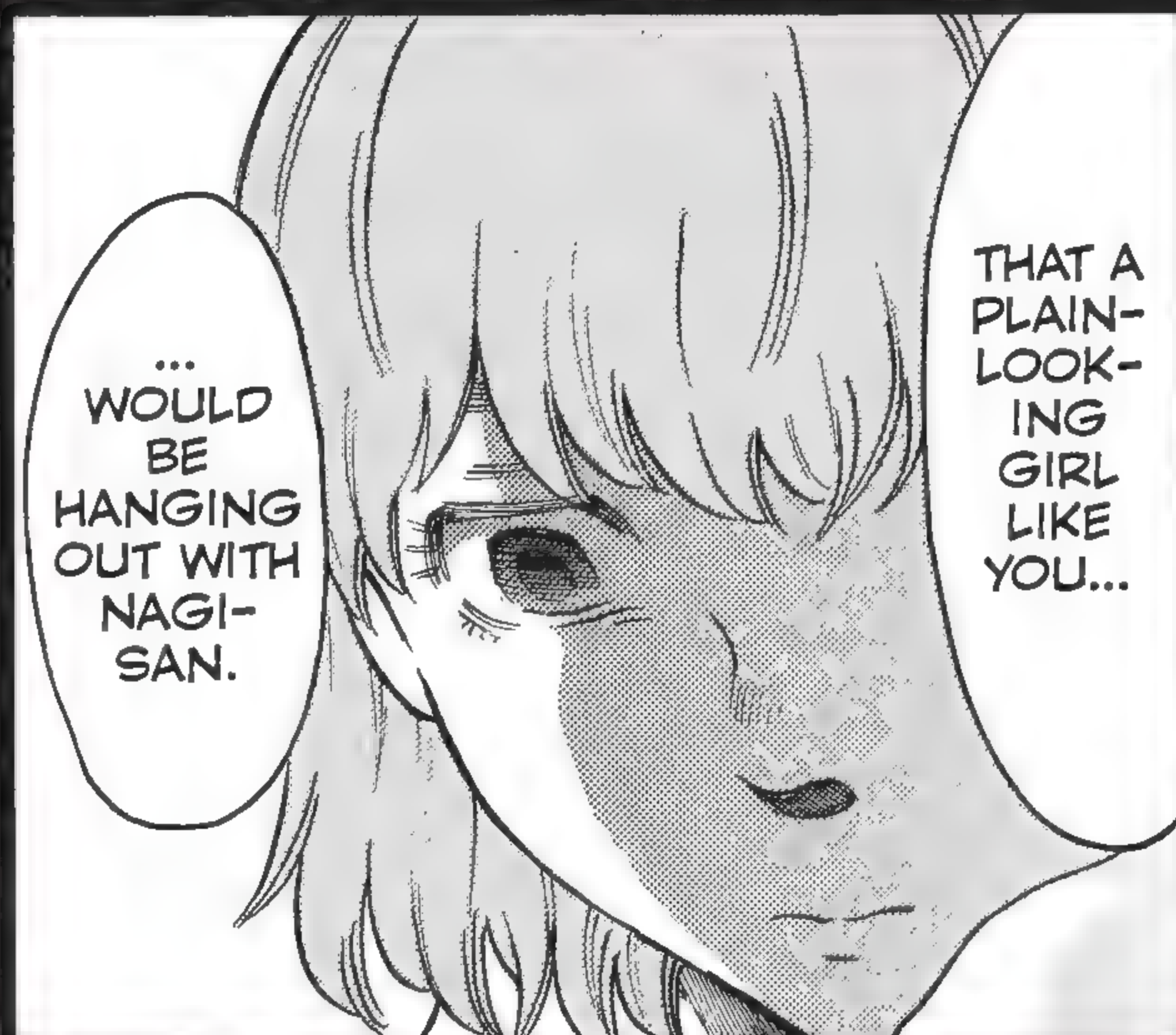




AND
WHEN
WE'RE
DONE,
WE CAN
TALK!



THAT DAY
WHEN I
RAN INTO
RIU-SAN
AGAIN...



...
WOULD
BE
HANGING
OUT WITH
NAGI-
SAN.

THAT A
PLAIN-
LOOK-
ING
GIRL
LIKE
YOU...



WELL
P.

IF
YOU SEE
ANY YOU
LIKE, I
CAN SEND
YOU THE
FILES...

I ALWAYS
THOUGHT
IT WAS
STRANGE.

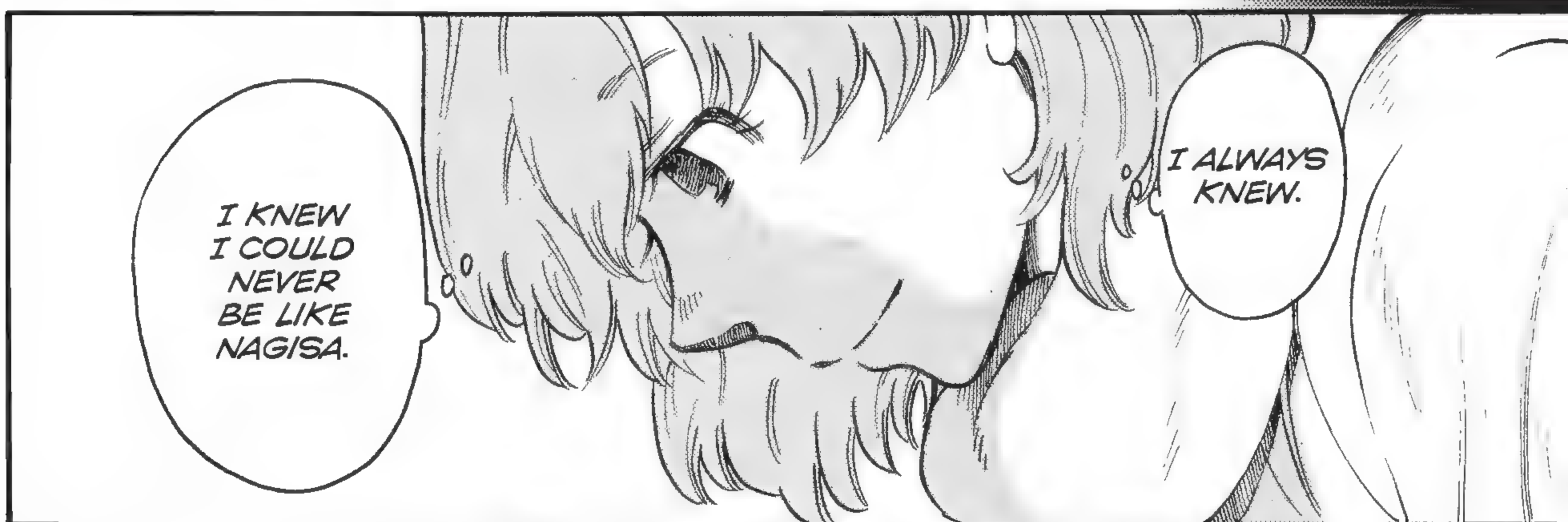
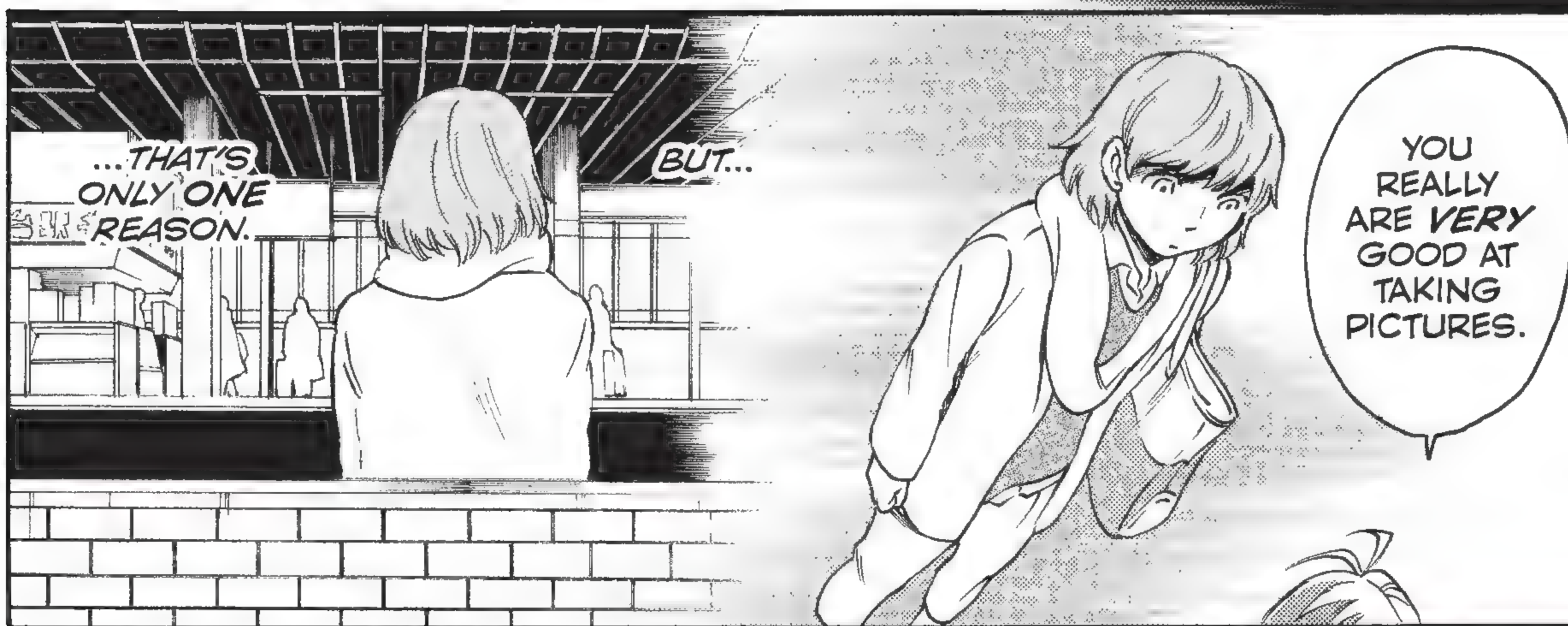


BUT...



IT WAS SO
ANNOYING
TO WATCH.

YOU'RE
ALWAYS
TAGGING
ALONG
BEHIND
HER.



I WORKED
REALLY HARD
AFTER THAT, ON
ALL KINDS OF
THINGS.



I WANTED
TO GET
BETTER,
TOO.

UM...H-
HOW
DO YOU
MAKE
THIS?

I
WENT TO
EVENTS
BY
MYSELF
AND
TALKED
TO
LAYERS.



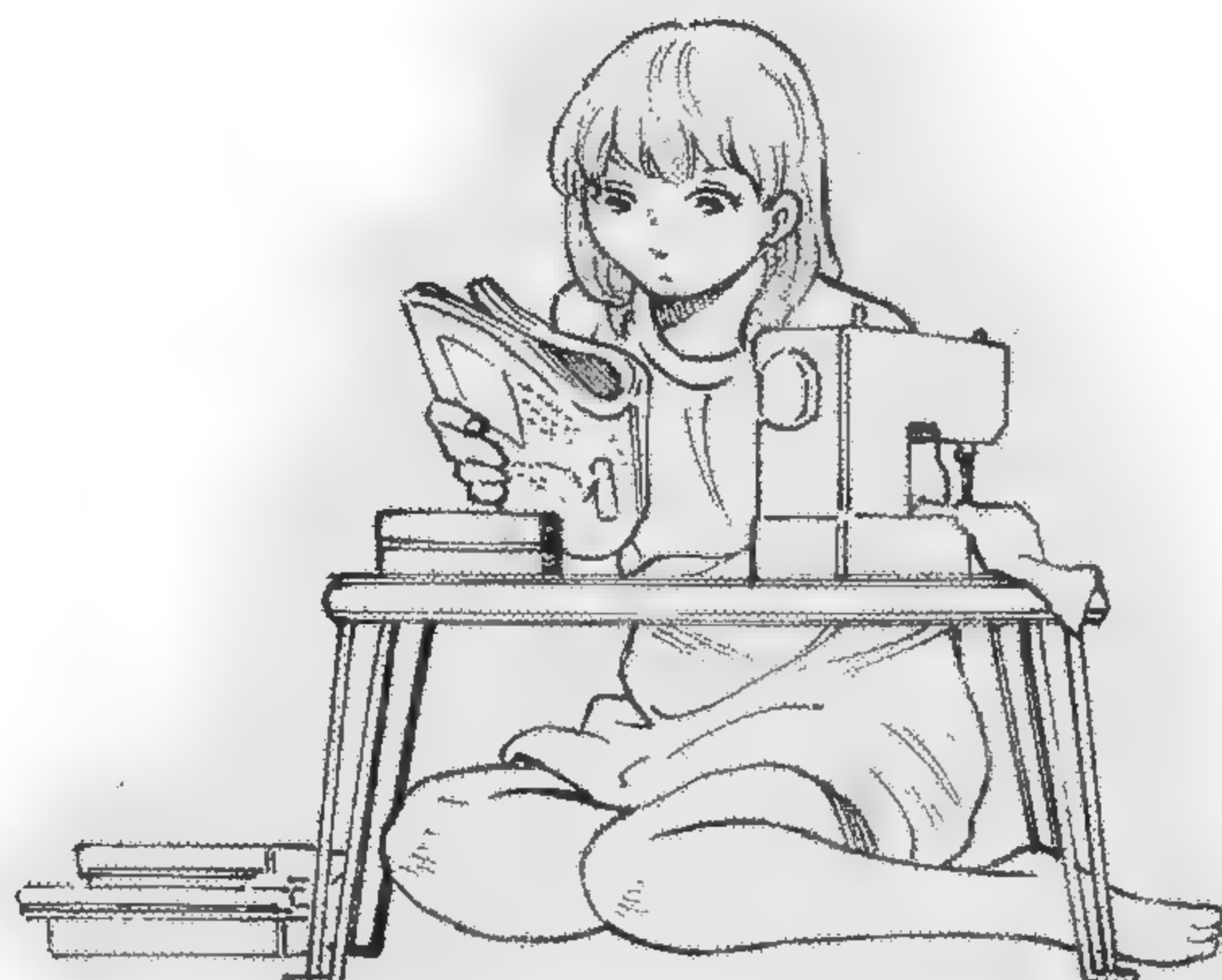
YOU'RE
NOT
VERY
GOOD.

I GOT
MOM TO
TEACH ME
HOW TO
SEW.



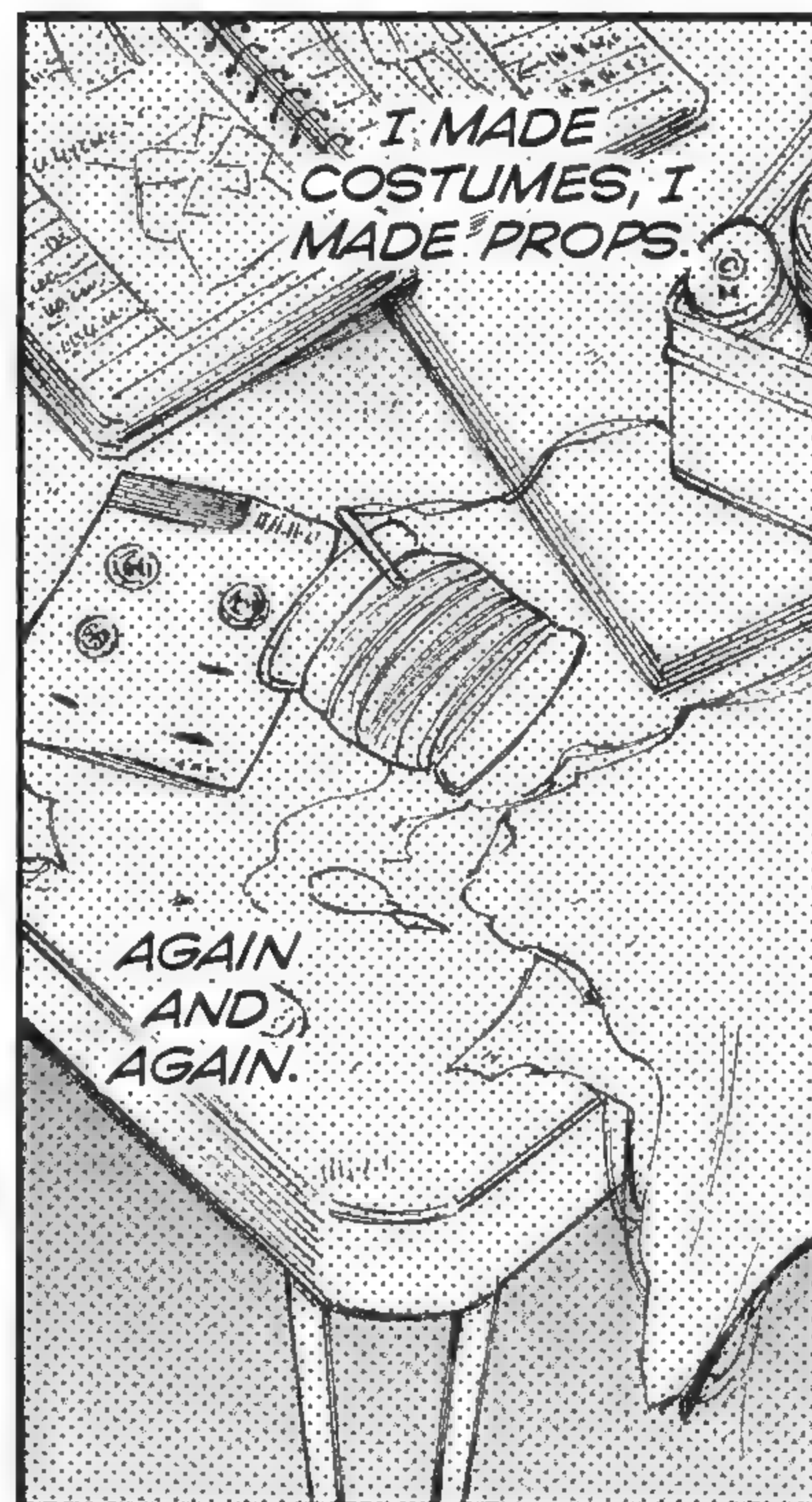
BUT...

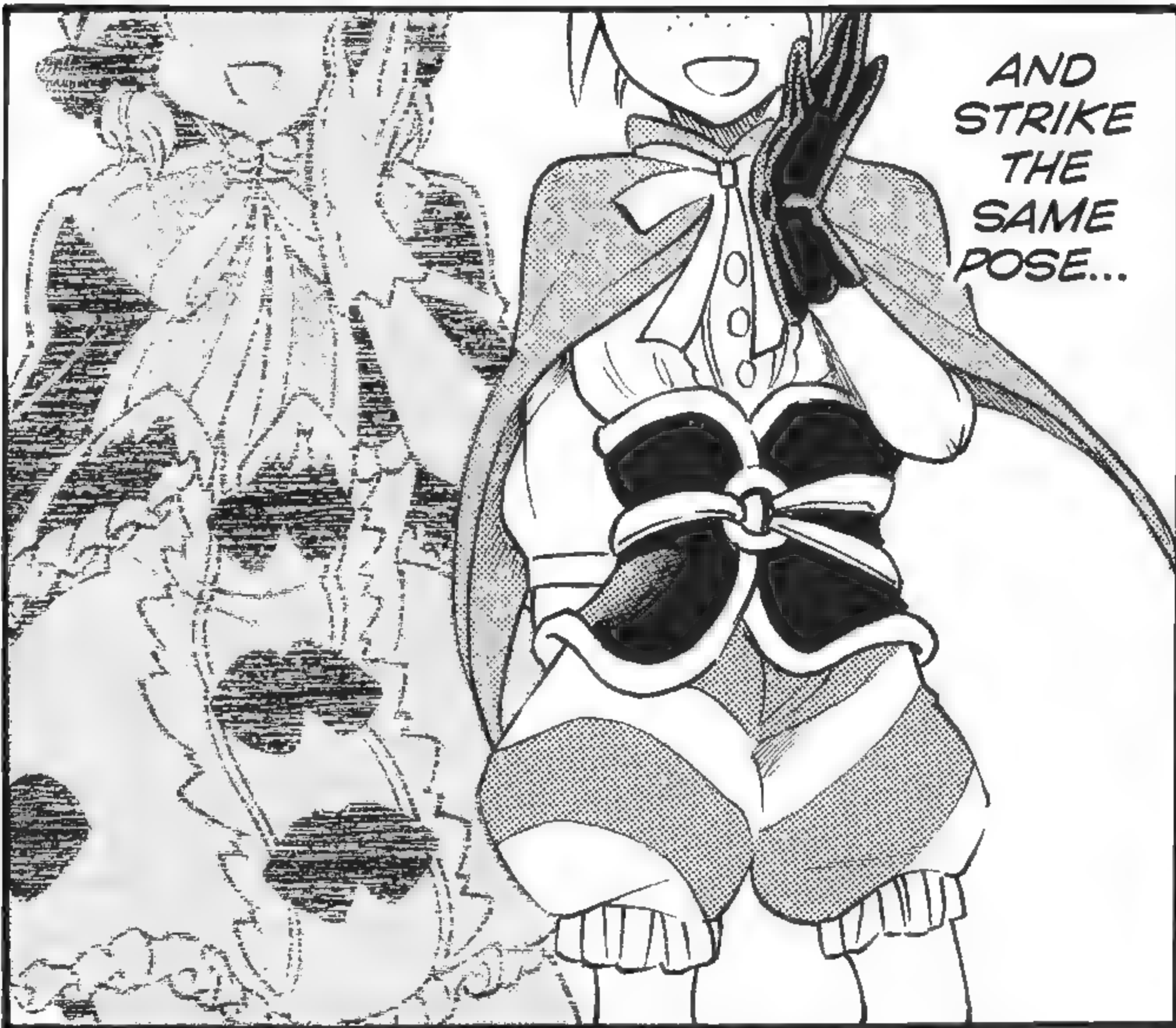
I LOVED
THIS HOBBY
AT LEAST
AS MUCH
AS NAGISA
EVER DID.



I MADE
COSTUMES, I
MADE PROPS.

AGAIN
AND
AGAIN.





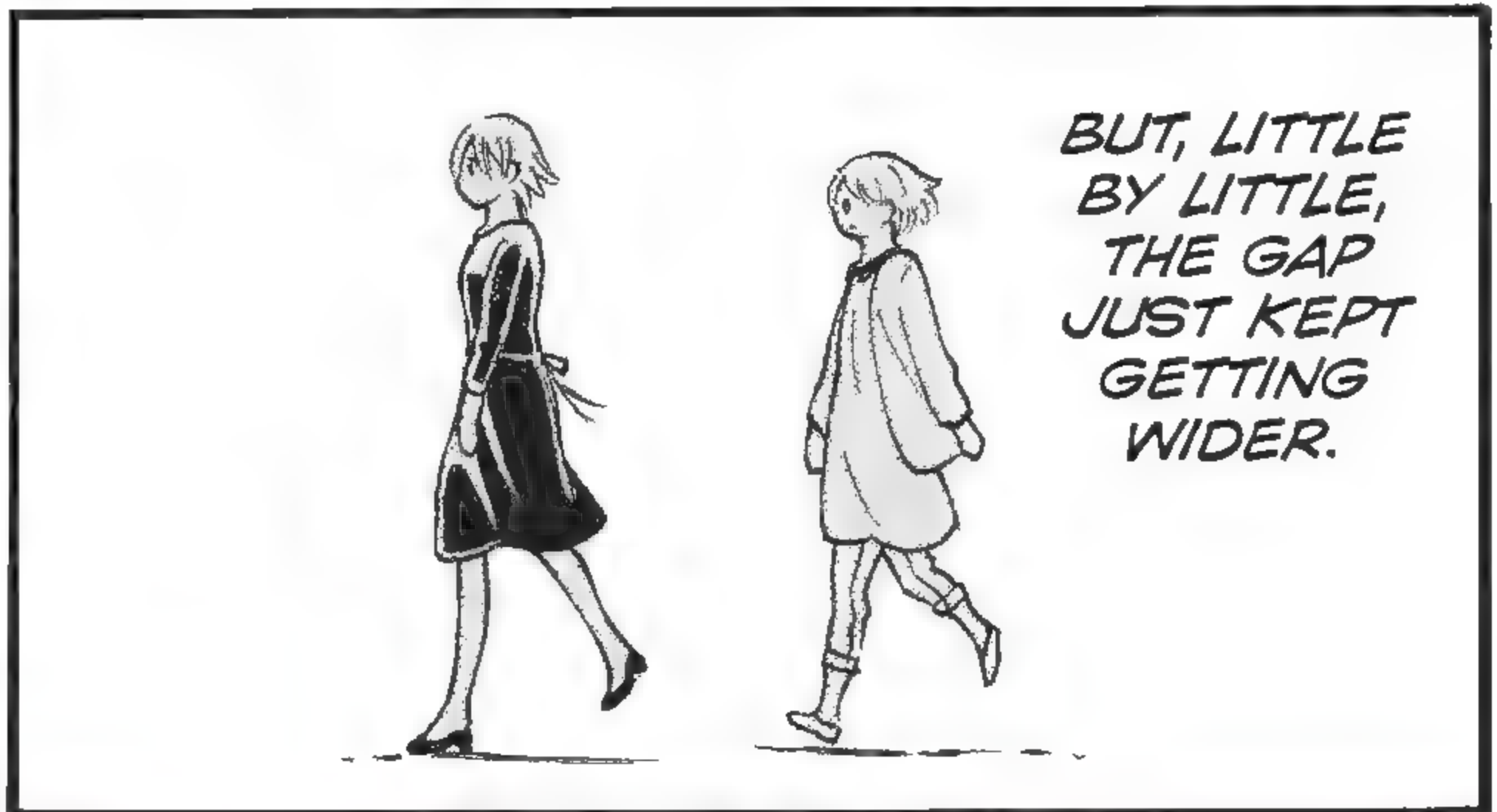
AND
STRIKE
THE
SAME
POSE...



I COULD DO
MAKEUP
THE SAME
WAY...



I WAS
ALWAYS
RIGHT
BESIDE
HER.



BUT, LITTLE
BY LITTLE,
THE GAP
JUST KEPT
GETTING
WIDER.



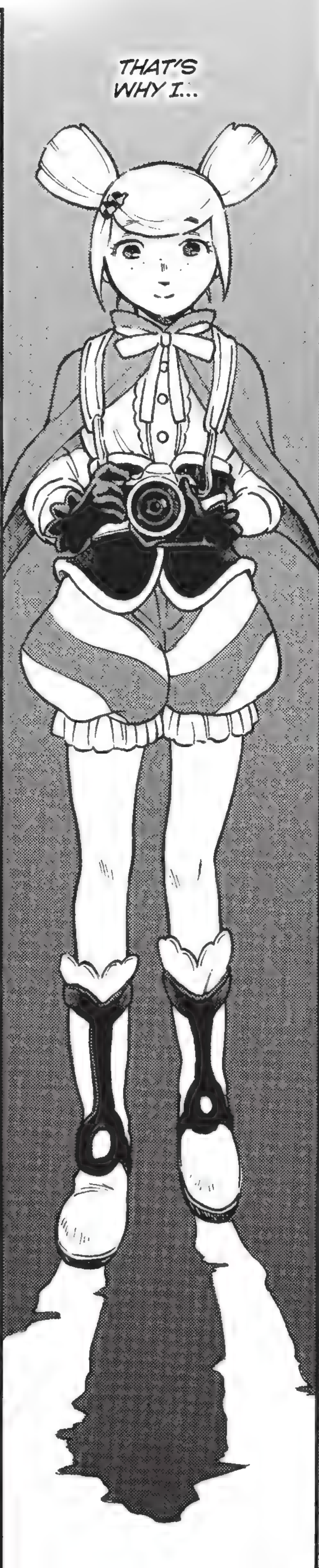
BUT
SOMETIMES,
I FELT LIKE
WE WERE
SO FAR
AWAY

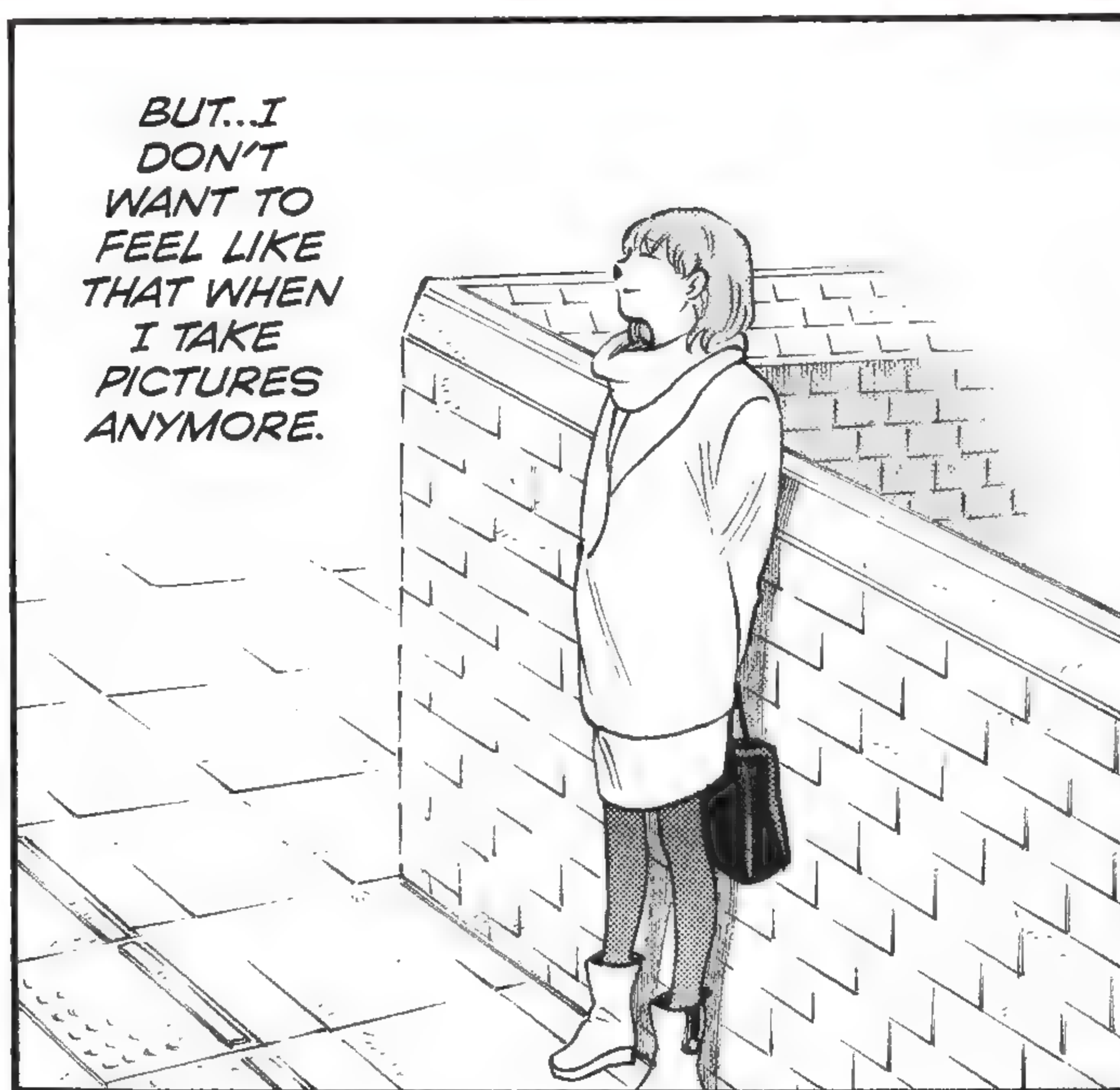
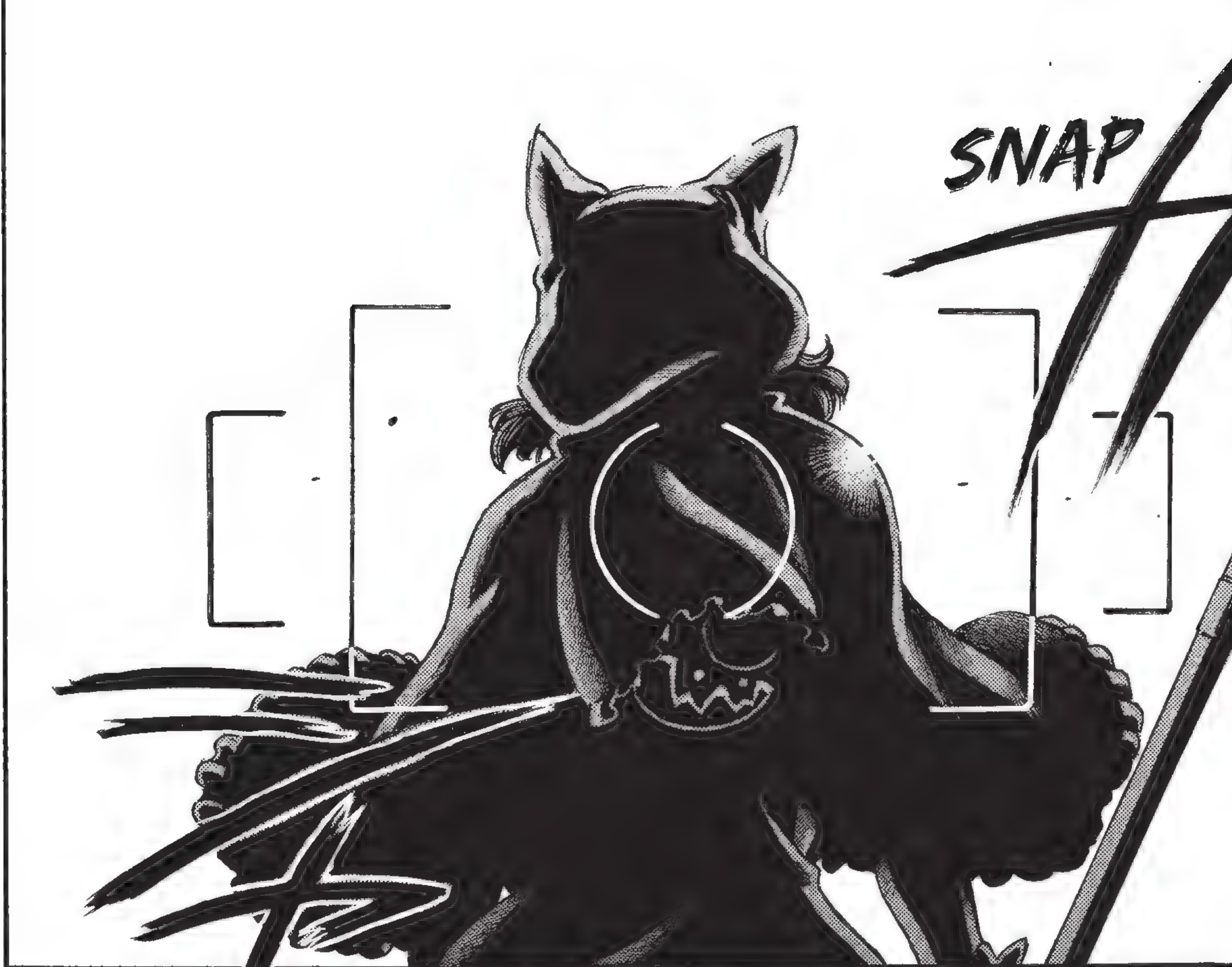
...COULD
DO
WAS...

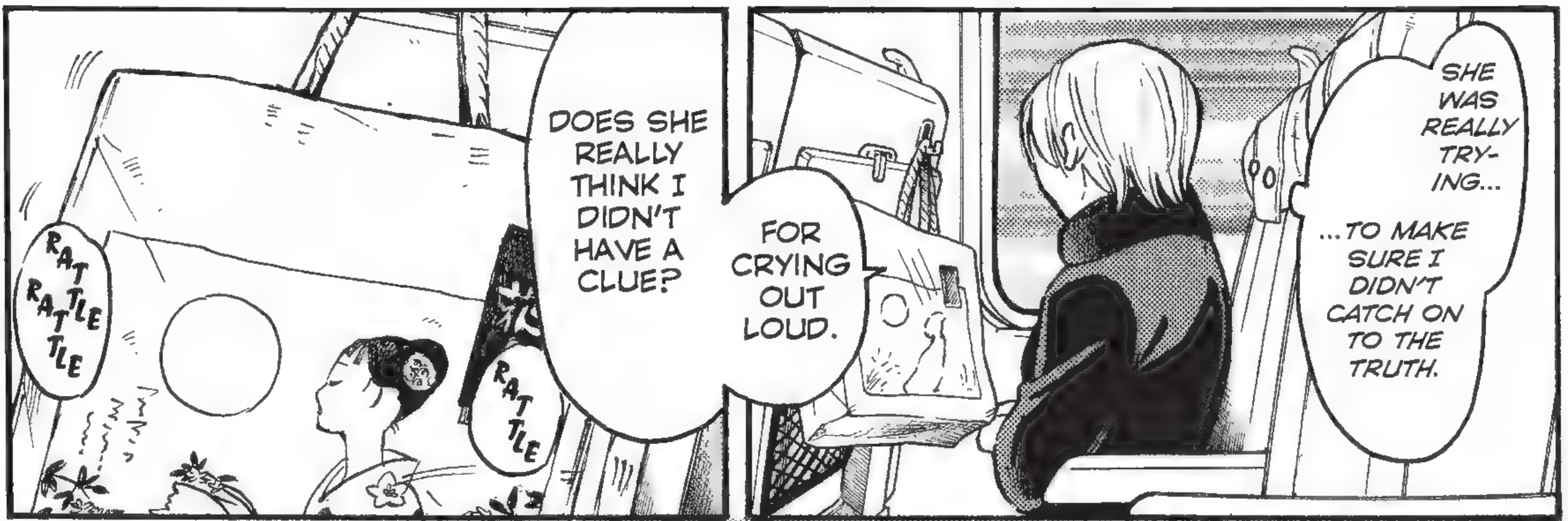
ALL I...

THAT'S
WHY I...

NAGISA WAS
ALWAYS THE
PERSONIFICATION
OF SOMEONE I
WANTED TO BE
BUT COULDN'T.











n 40 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n 41

「先生、
おはようございます。」

「先生、おはよう。
今日もよろしくお願いします。」

「おはよう先生。」

「おはよう先生。
今日もよろしくお願いします。」

「おはよう。」

「おはよう先生。」

THE
AQUARIUM
IN MAT-
SUSHIMA
WAS ONE
OF THE
FAMOUS
THREE
VIEWS OF
JAPAN.

MARINEPIA
MATSU-
SHIMA
AQUARIUM.

I WENT FOR
A VISIT
BEFORE IT
CLOSED
DOWN.

Sign: Marinepia Matsushima Aquarium

ASIDE FROM
MY MEMORIES,
THERE'S
ANOTHER
REASON I CAN
NEVER FORGET
IT...

HOW-
EVER!

WHEN
I HEAR
"AQUARI-
UM," IT'S
THE FIRST
PLACE I
THINK OF!

IT'S A PLACE
THAT'S BEEN
GOOD TO ME
MANY TIMES,
STARTING
WITH MY
FIRST FIELD
TRIP THERE IN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.

I THINK ALMOST
EVERY CITIZEN OF THE
PREFECTURE HAS BEEN
THERE!

SQUEE

THANK YOU
SO MUCH FOR
GIVING SO
MANY PEOPLE
SO MUCH
JOY, WITHOUT
EVEN LOSING
TO THE BIG
EARTHQUAKE!

...THOSE
88
YEARS!

YOU
WORKED
SO
HARD...

BESIDE
THEM WERE
SOME GIGANTIC
FISH FROM THE
AMAZON... AND
THEY HAD THE
LIGHTS DIMMED
TO SET THE
MOOD.

Fish from the Amazon

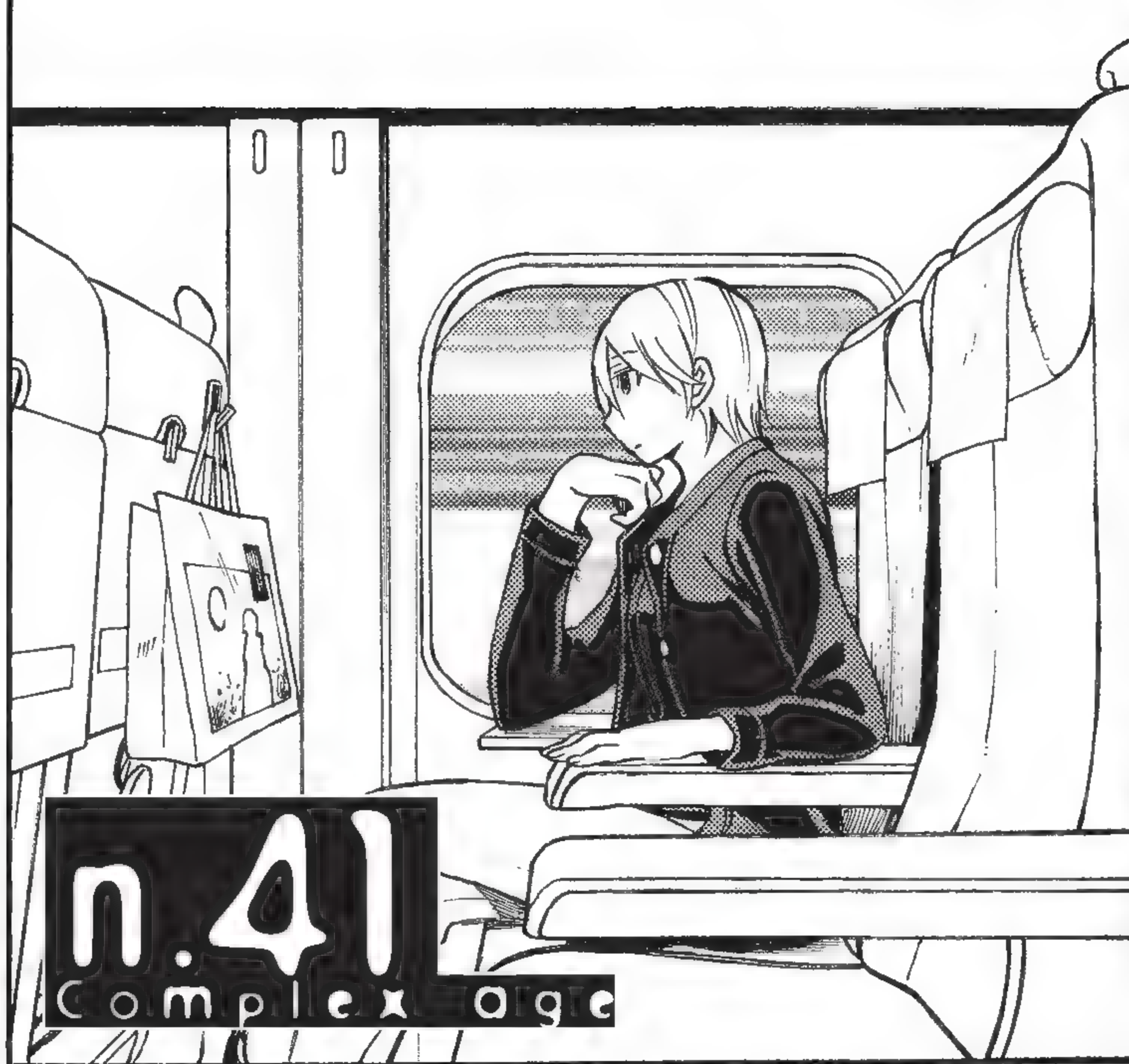
IT JUST...
YOU KNOW.
IT WAS
A LITTLE
TRAUMATIC...
(HA HA)

WHEN I WAS
A KID, IT WAS
TERRIFYING.

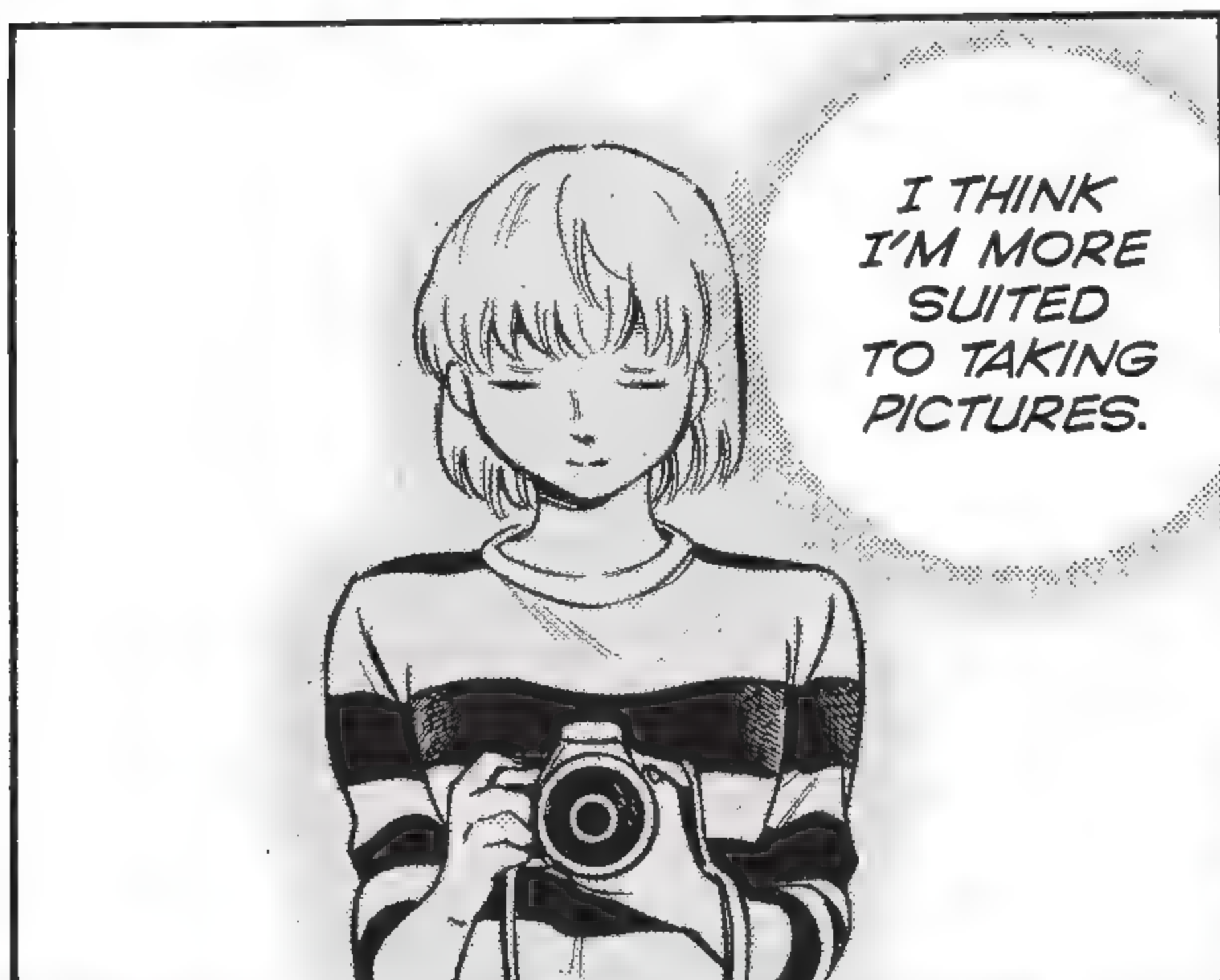
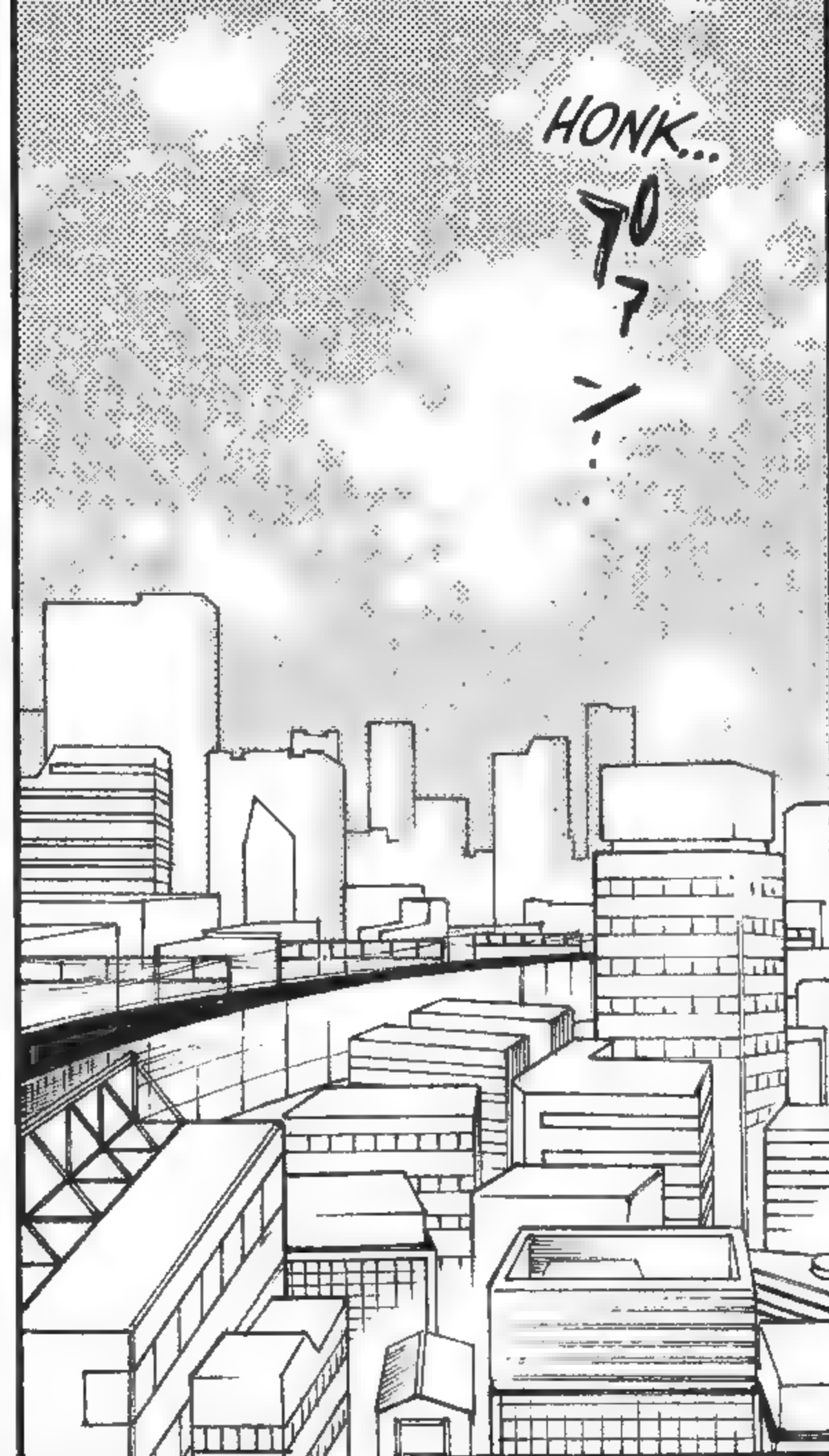
THE VERY
FIRST
FISH THEY
SHOW YOU
WHEN YOU
ENTER THE
AQUARIUM
IS THE
PIRANHA.

Piranha

DANGER



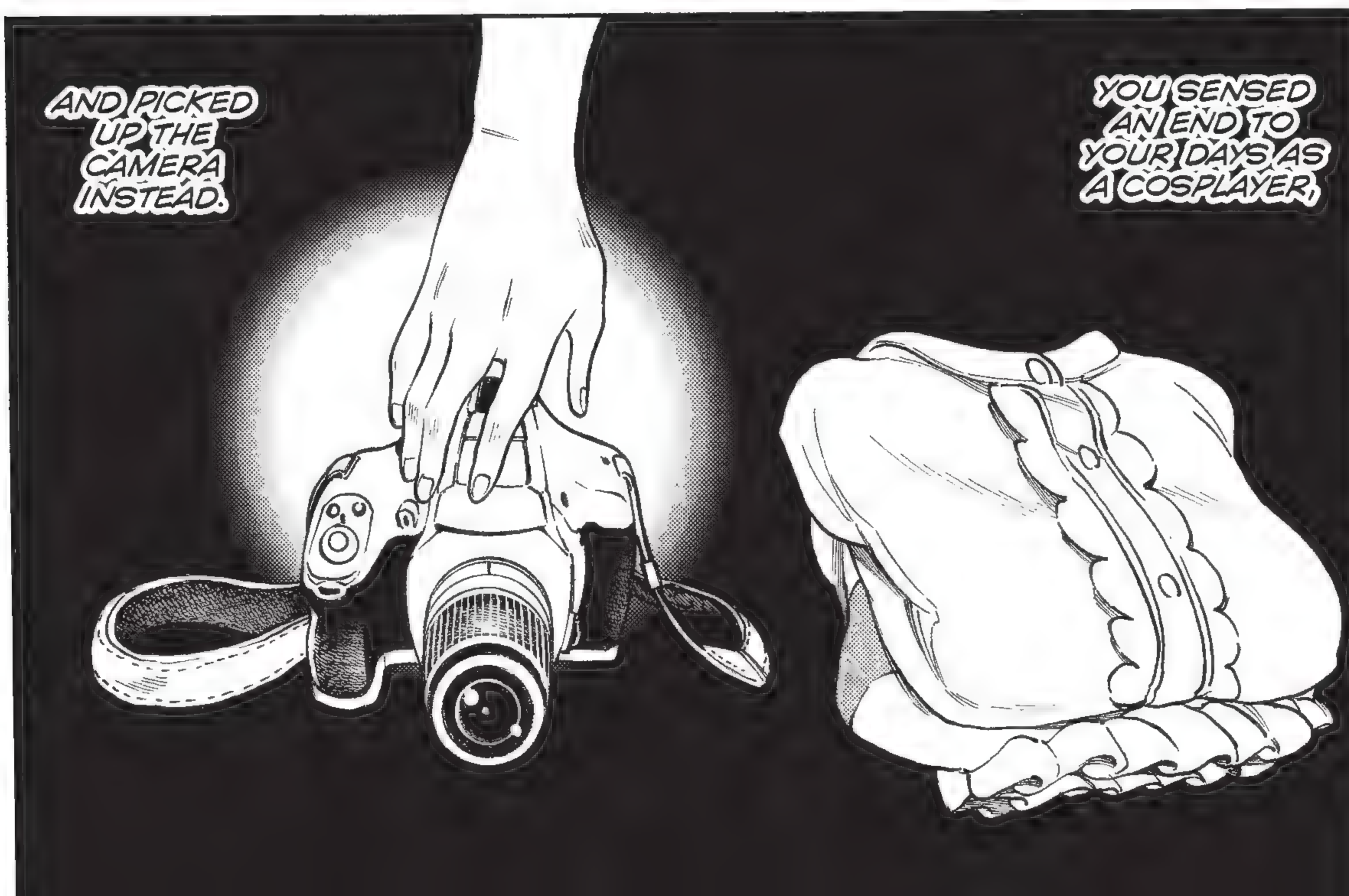
n.41
Complex age



I THINK
I'M MORE
SUITED
TO TAKING
PICTURES.



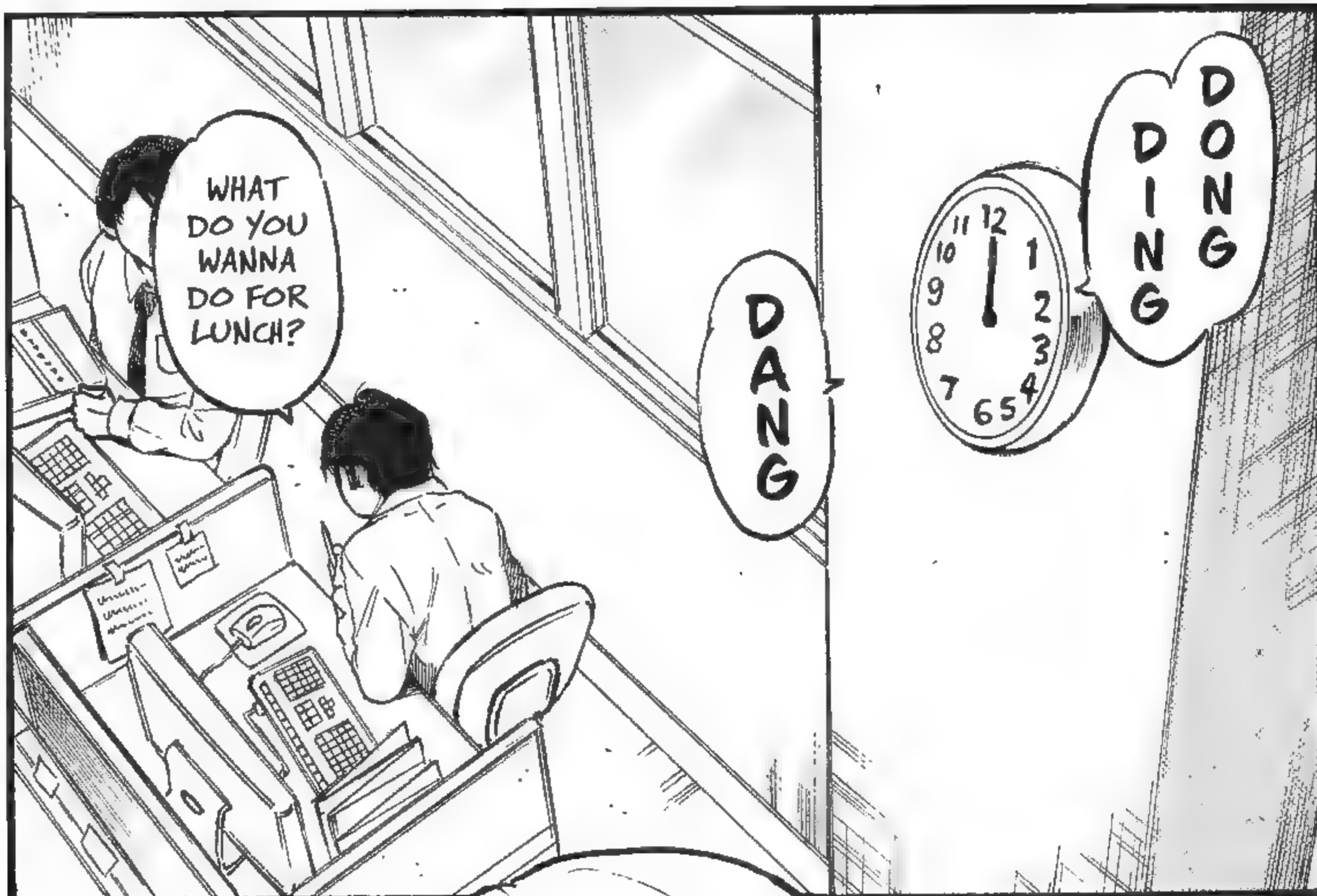
DID I DO
THE RIGHT
THING?



AND PICKED
UP THE
CAMERA
INSTEAD.

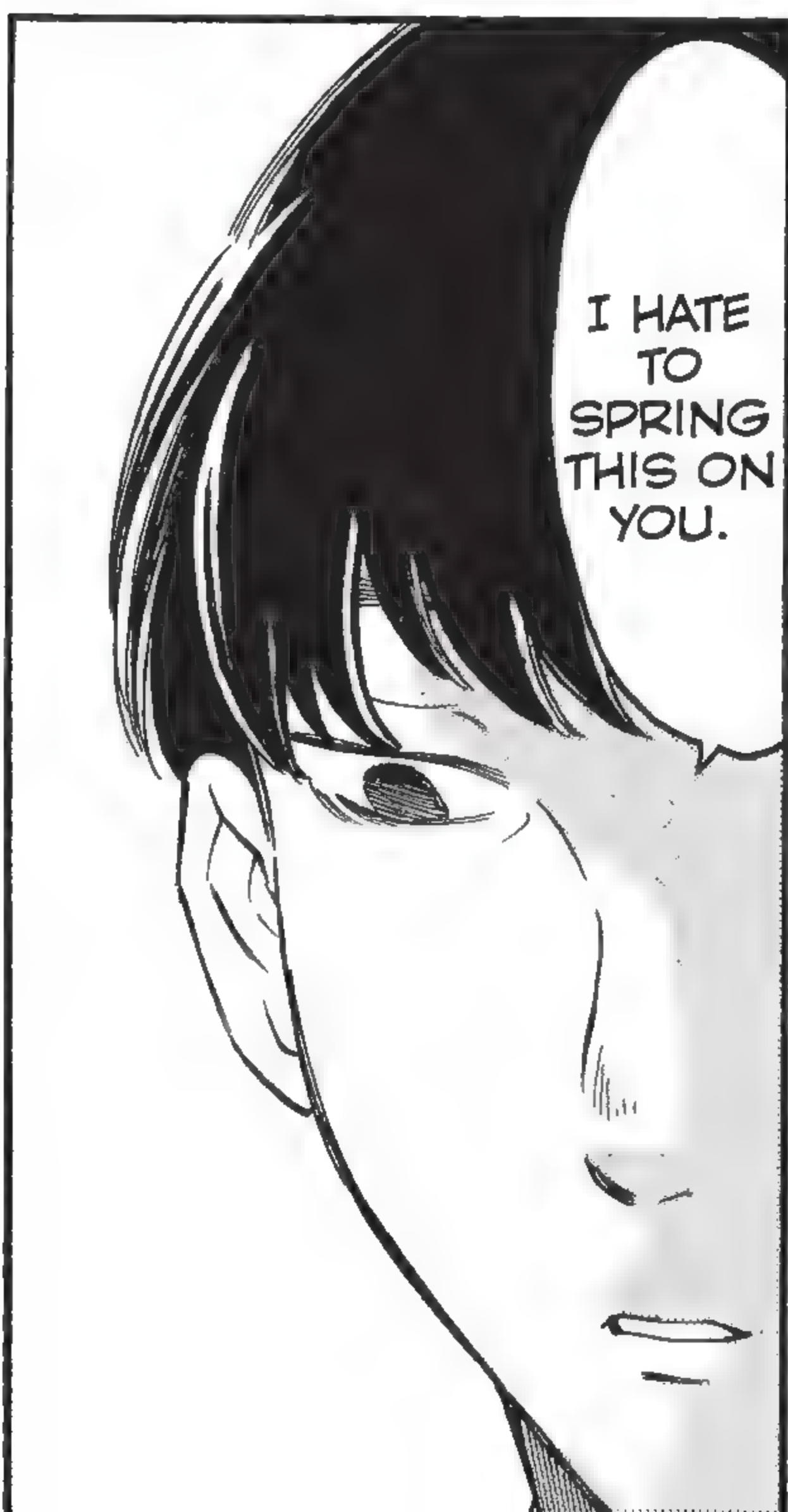
YOU SENSED
AN END TO
YOUR DAYS AS
A COSPLAYER,







Can: Mature Lightly Sweetened Suntory Coffee





BUT WOULD
YOU CARE
TO JOIN US,
KATAURA-
SAN?



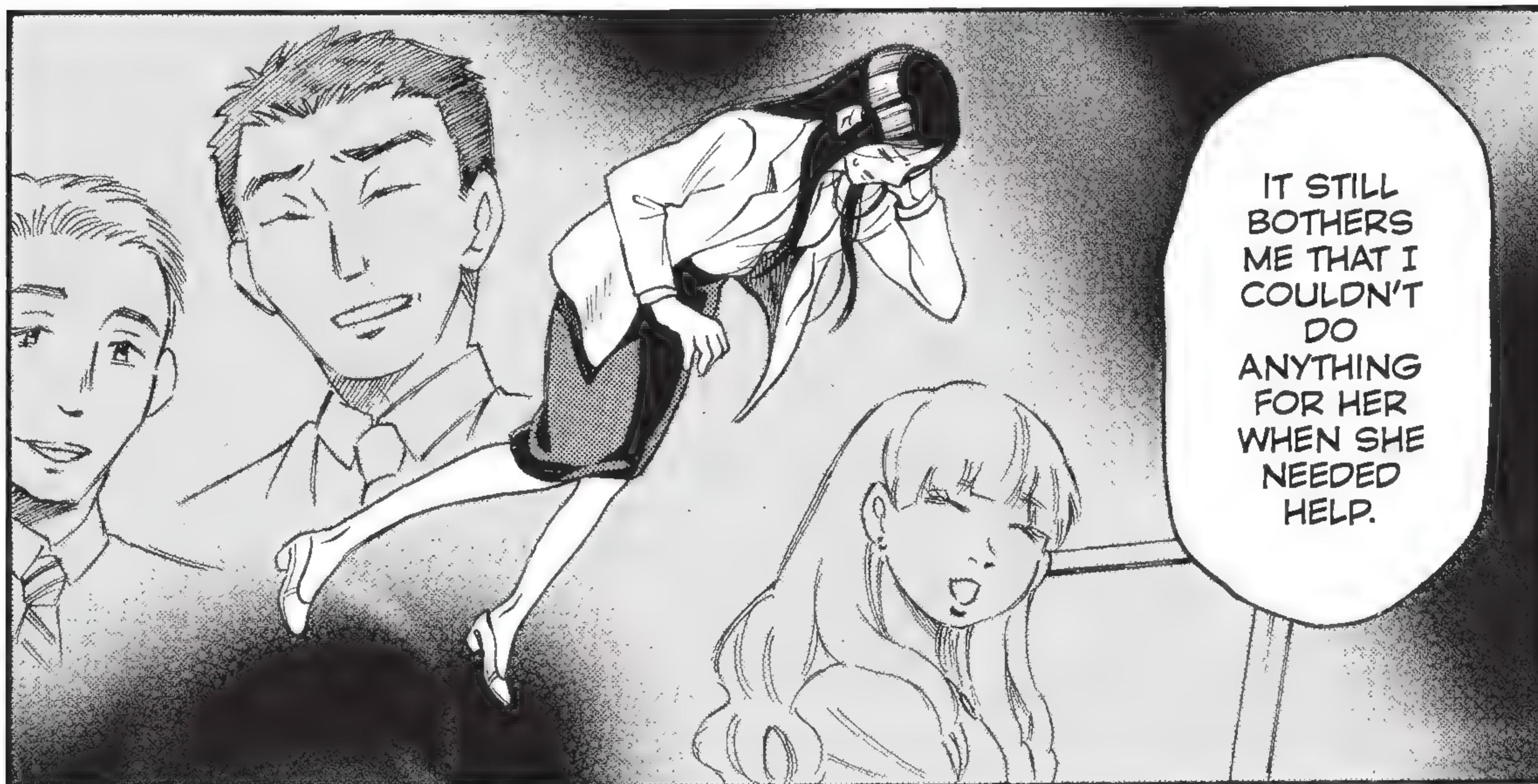
HAYAMA-SAN
IS THE ONE
WHO TOLD
ME TO INVITE
YOU.

NO...



HA-
WHA?

WOULDN'T
I BE...IN
THE WAY?



IT STILL
BOTHERS
ME THAT I
COULDN'T
DO
ANYTHING
FOR HER
WHEN SHE
NEEDED
HELP.



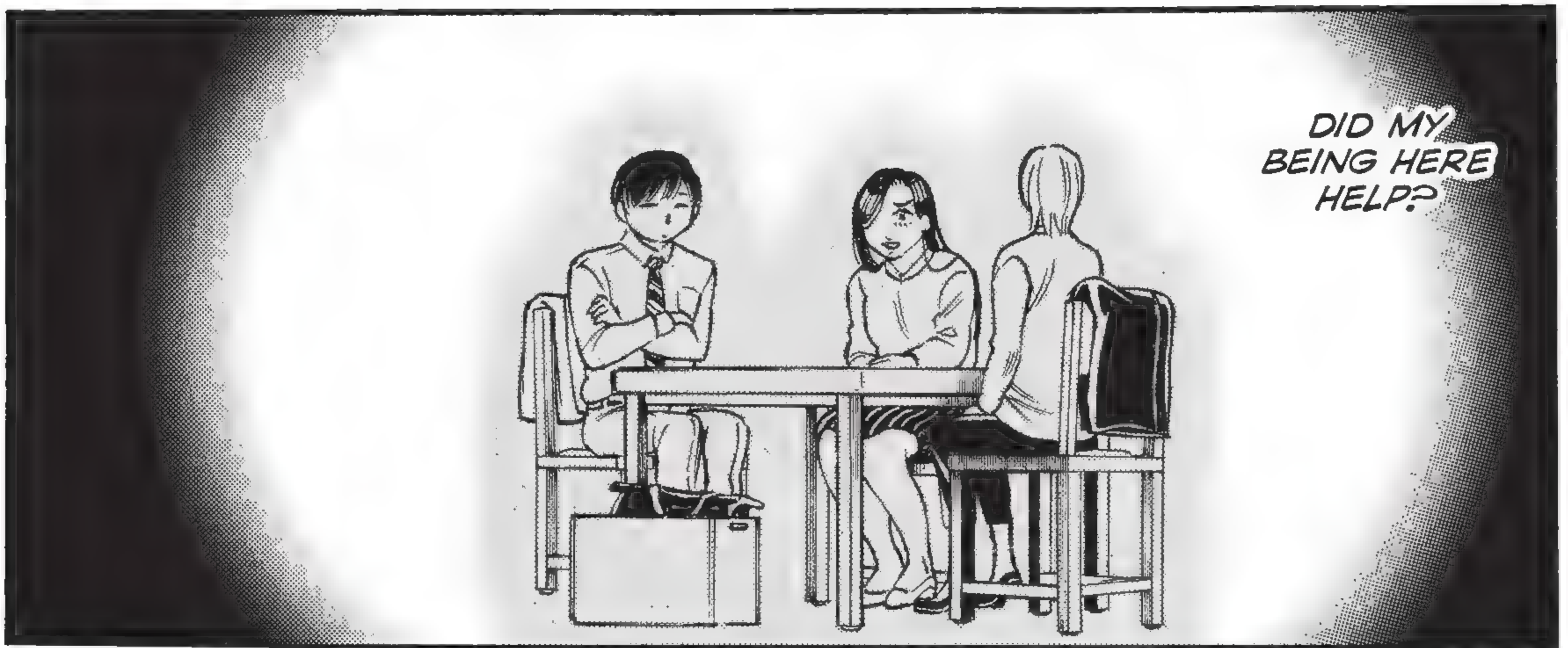


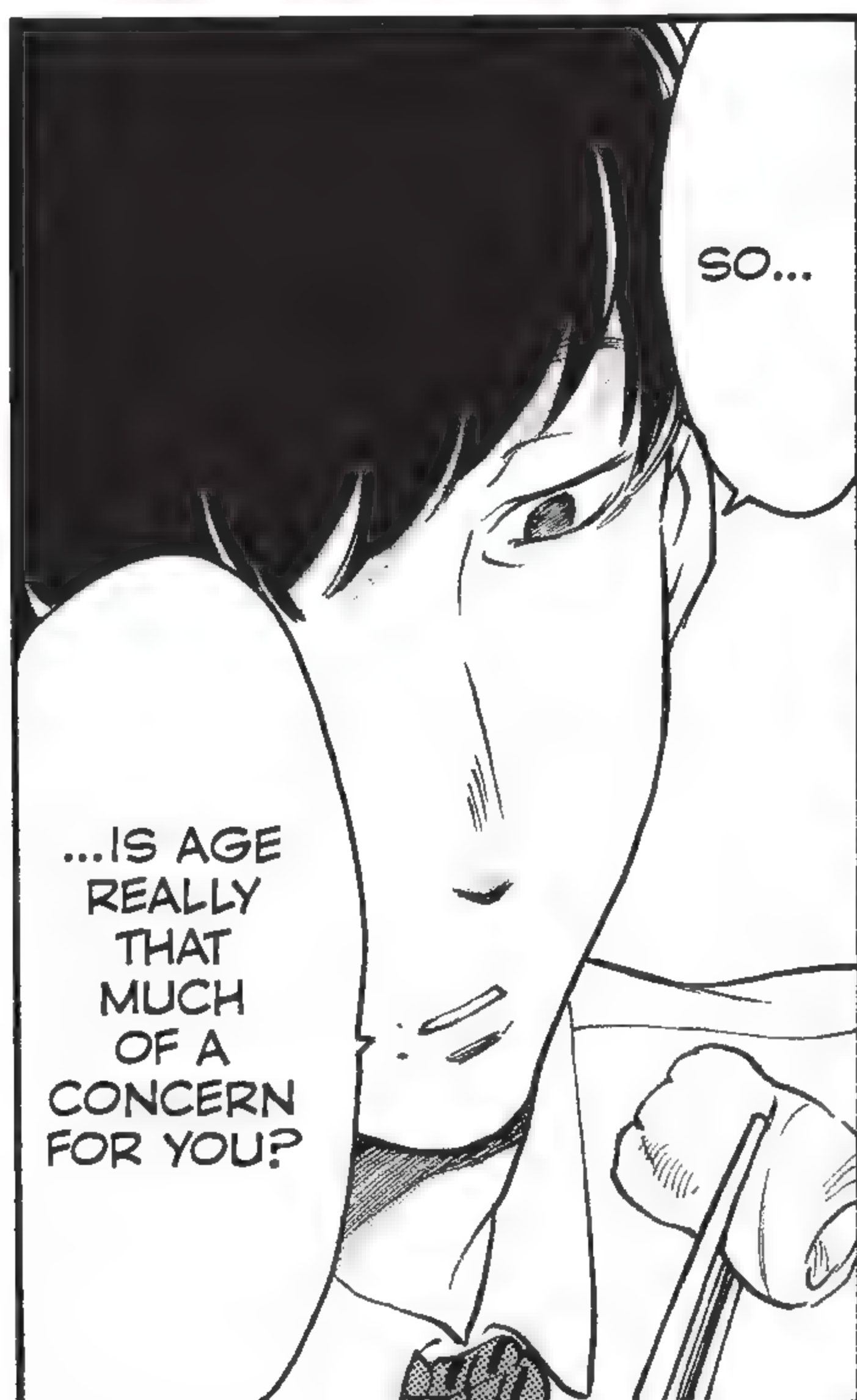
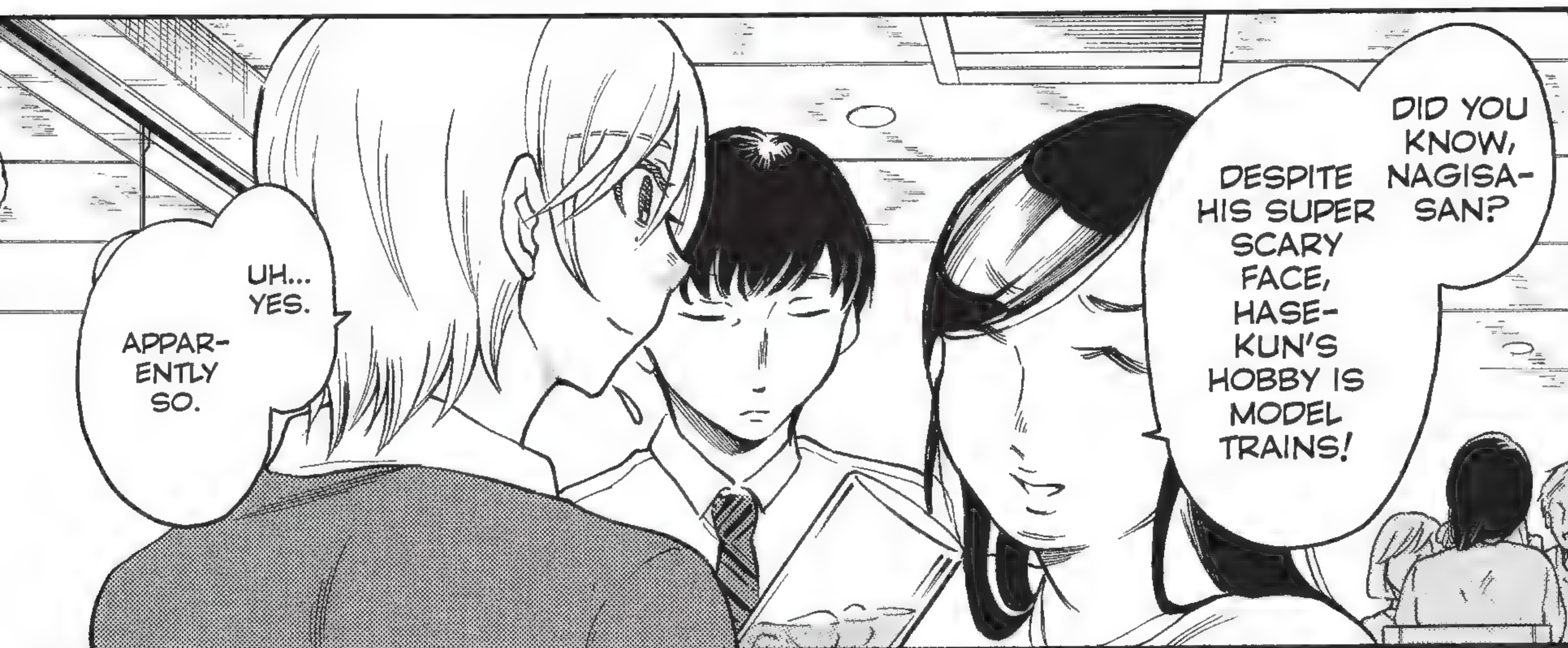
Sign: Izakaya Man-Man-Man

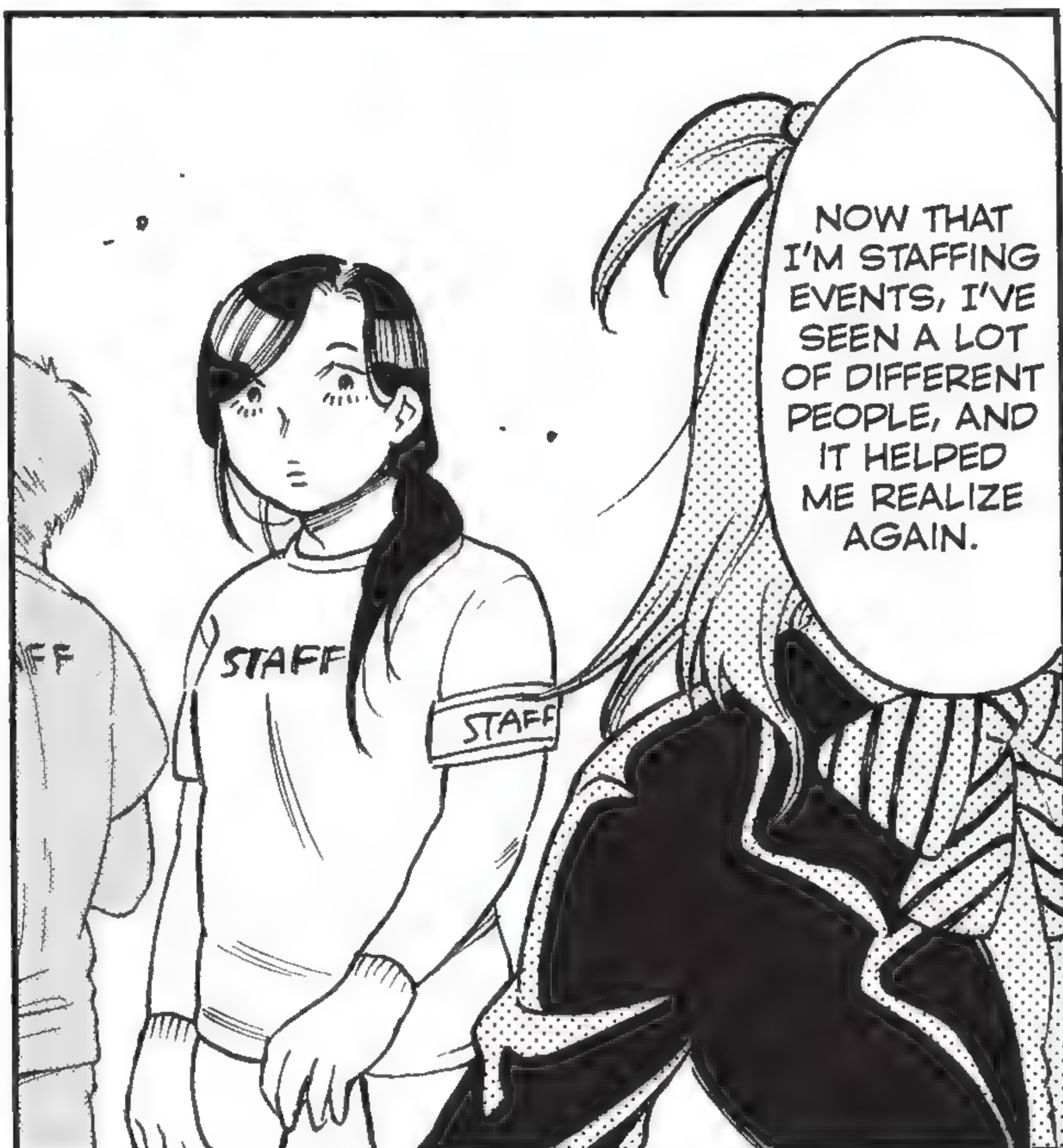
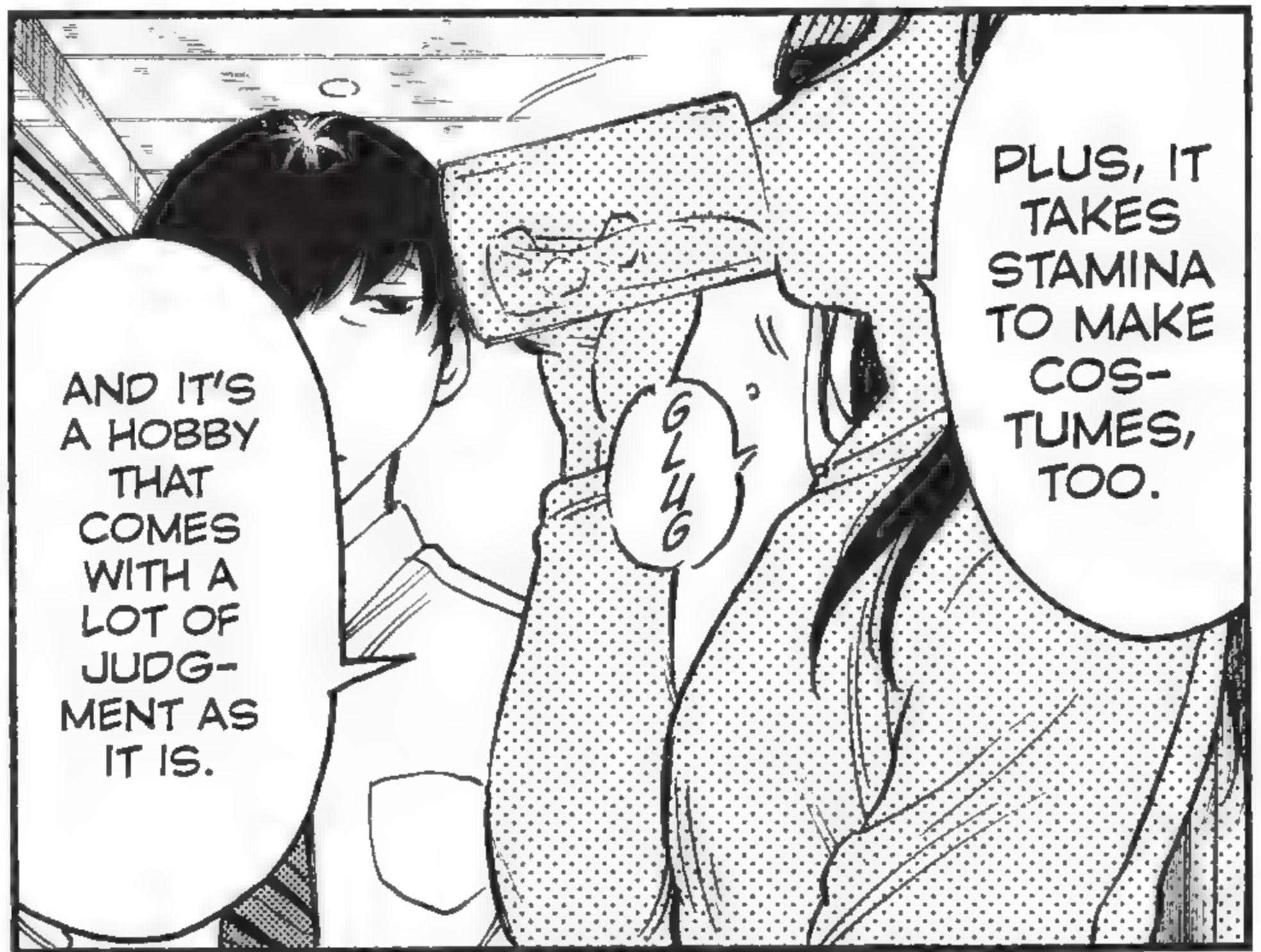








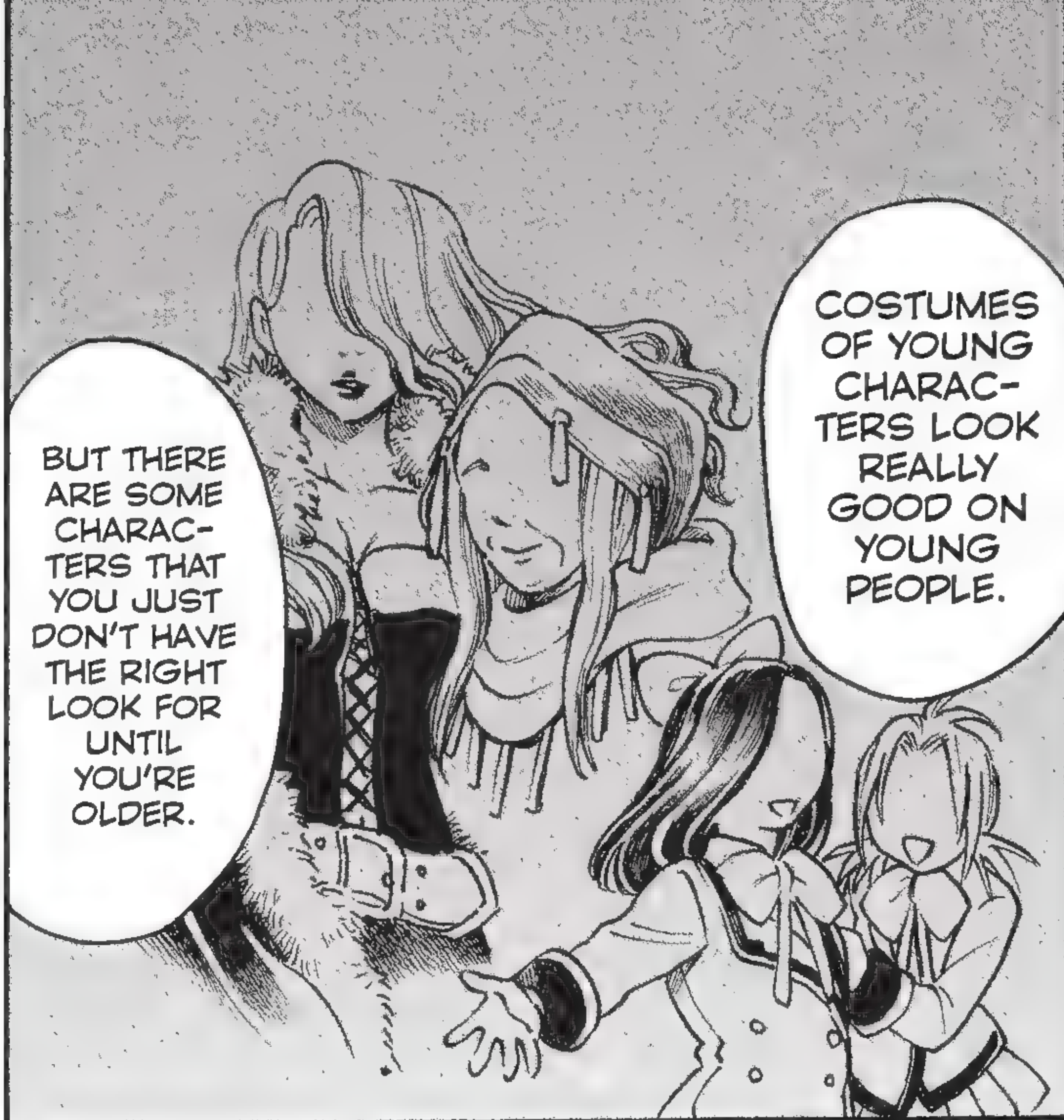






AND I FELT A LOT BETTER.

I REALIZED THAT IF I JUST CHANGE MY PERSPECTIVE, THEN MAYBE I CAN KEEP COSPLAYING.



BUT THERE ARE SOME CHARACTERS THAT YOU JUST DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT LOOK FOR UNTIL YOU'RE OLDER.

COSTUMES OF YOUNG CHARACTERS LOOK REALLY GOOD ON YOUNG PEOPLE.



IT WAS SUCH A WASTE OF ENERGY.



I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY IT BOTHERED ME SO MUCH.



BUT THAT JUST MEANS ...

THE UNPLEASANT ASPECTS WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.

QUARRELING BETWEEN FELLOW COSPLAYERS...

GETTING FUNNY LOOKS FROM YOUR OWN RELATIVES,



YOU
AMAZE
ME,
HAYAMA-
SAN.

...
THAT'S
RIGHT.

...I DON'T
KNOW IF
I WOULD
HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO
SMILE LIKE
YOU DO.

IF THE
SAME
THING HAD
HAPPENED
TO ME...

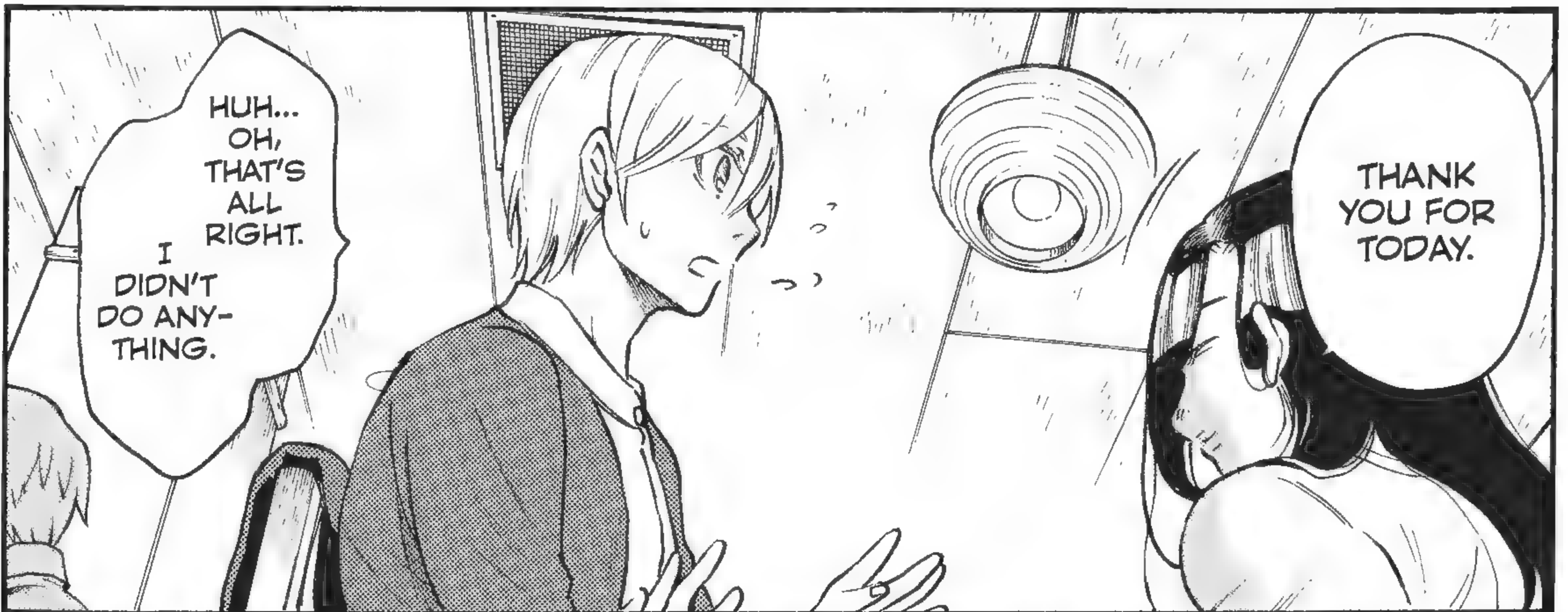
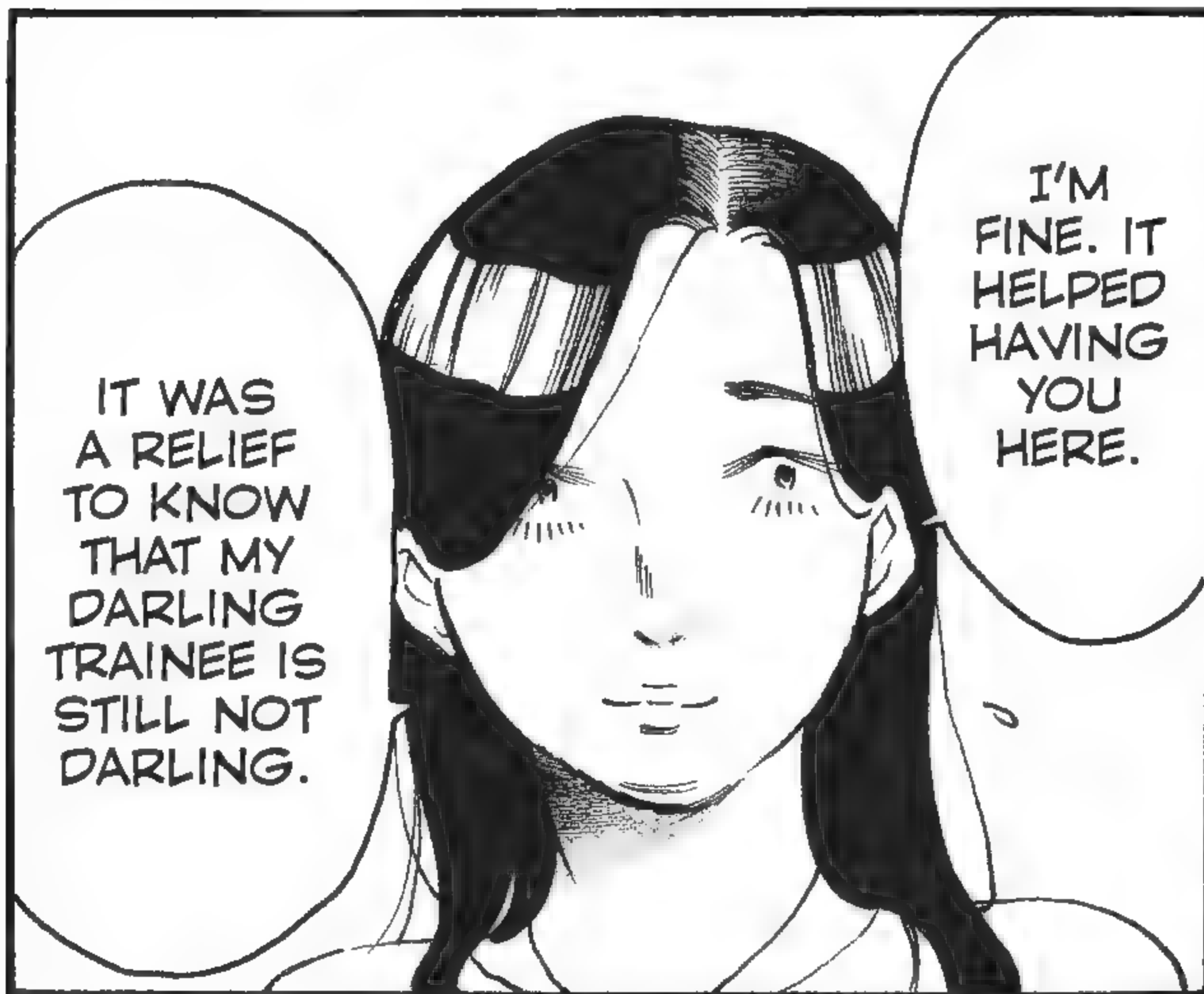
WHEW.

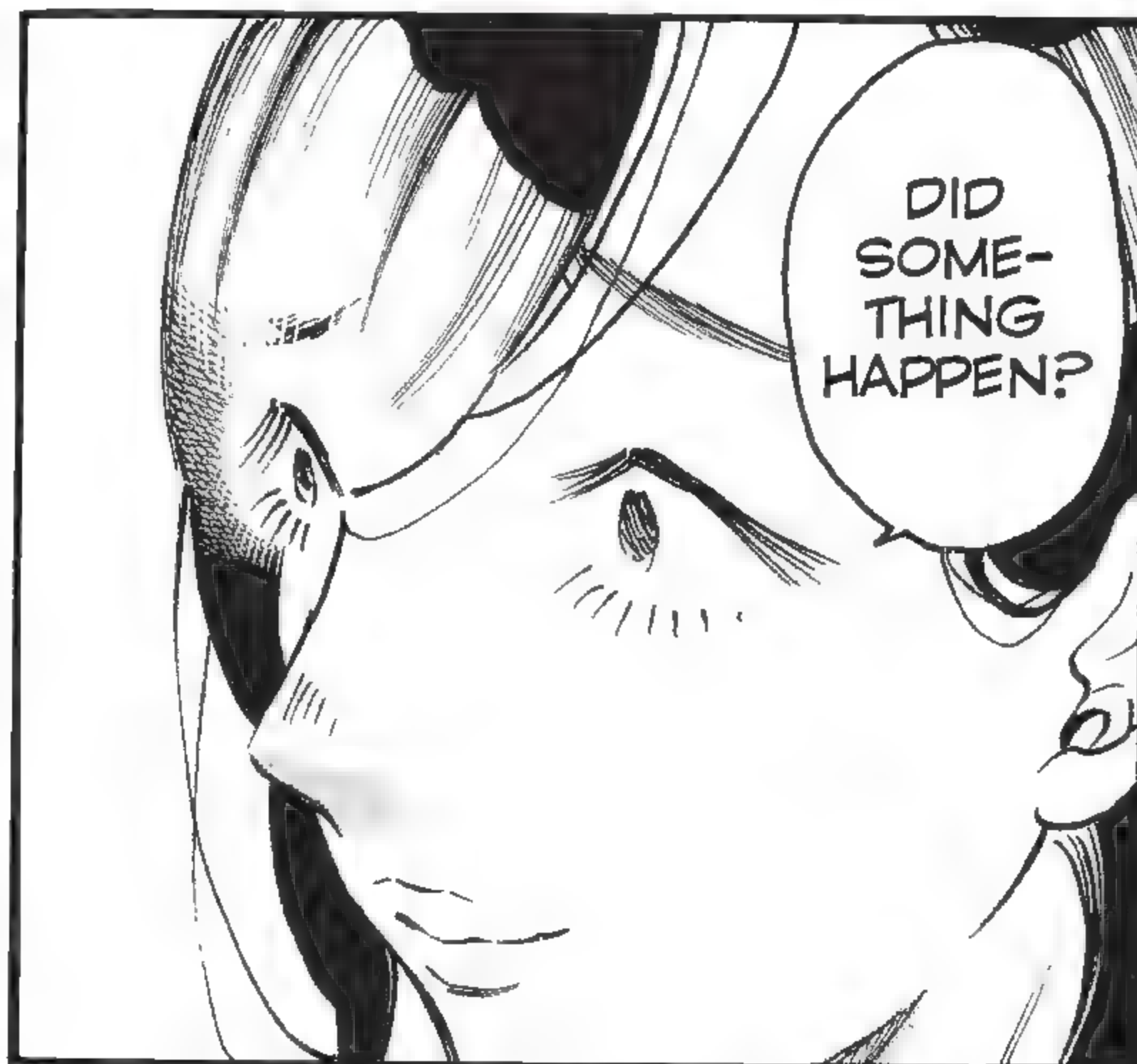
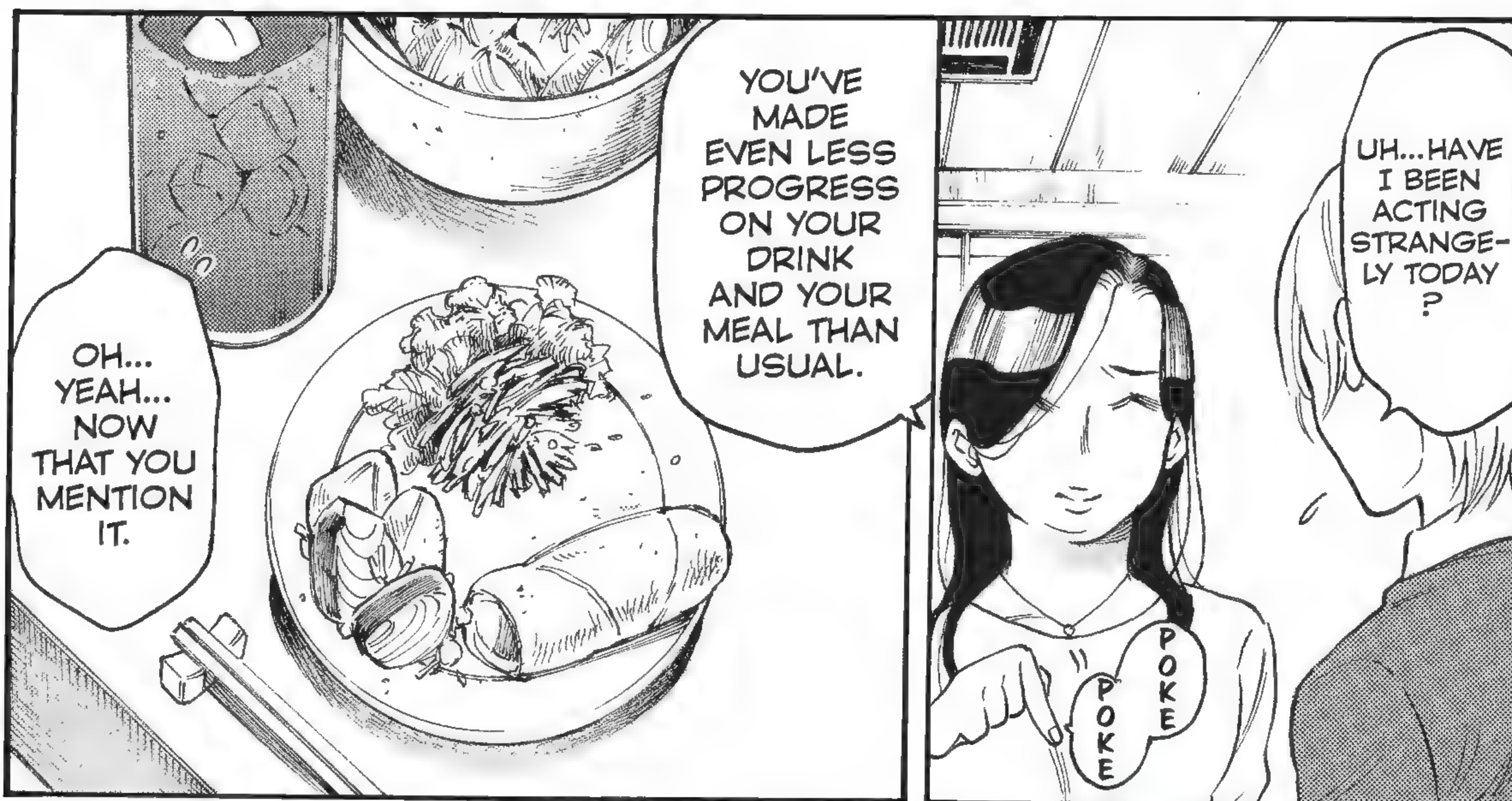
COME
BACK AT
MACH
SPEED.

WHAT?

EXCUSE
ME... I'M
GOING
TO THE
REST-
ROOM.

THAT'S
IMPOS-
SIBLE.

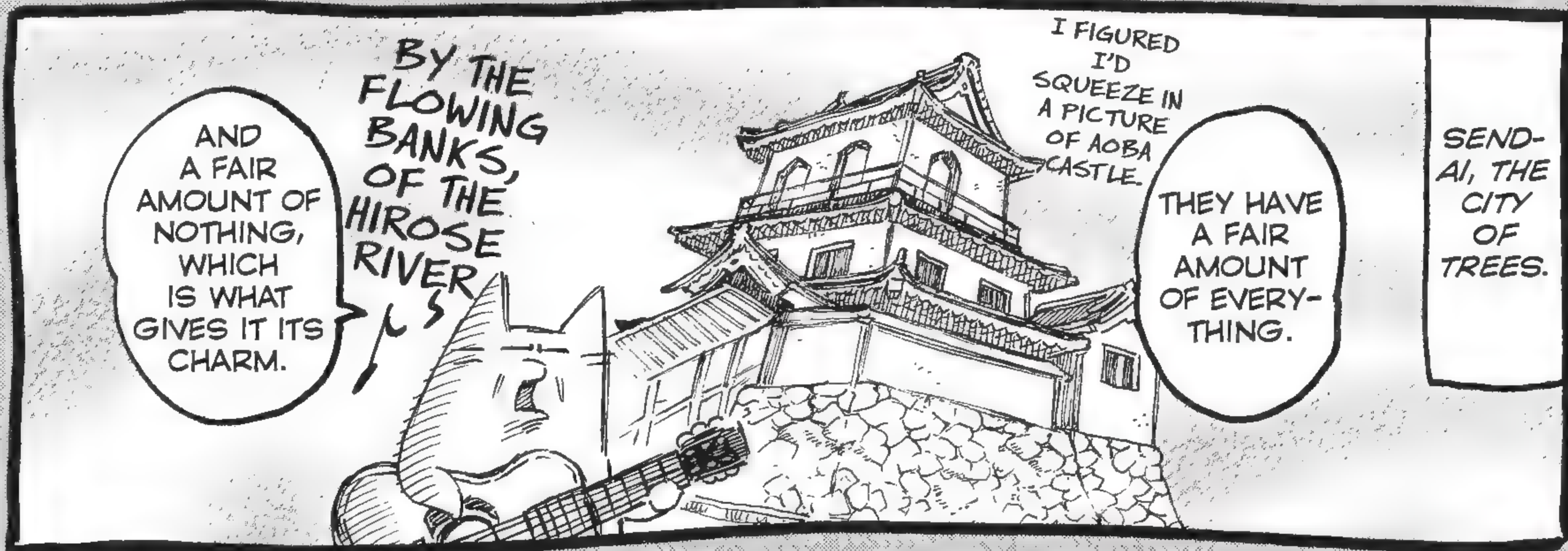


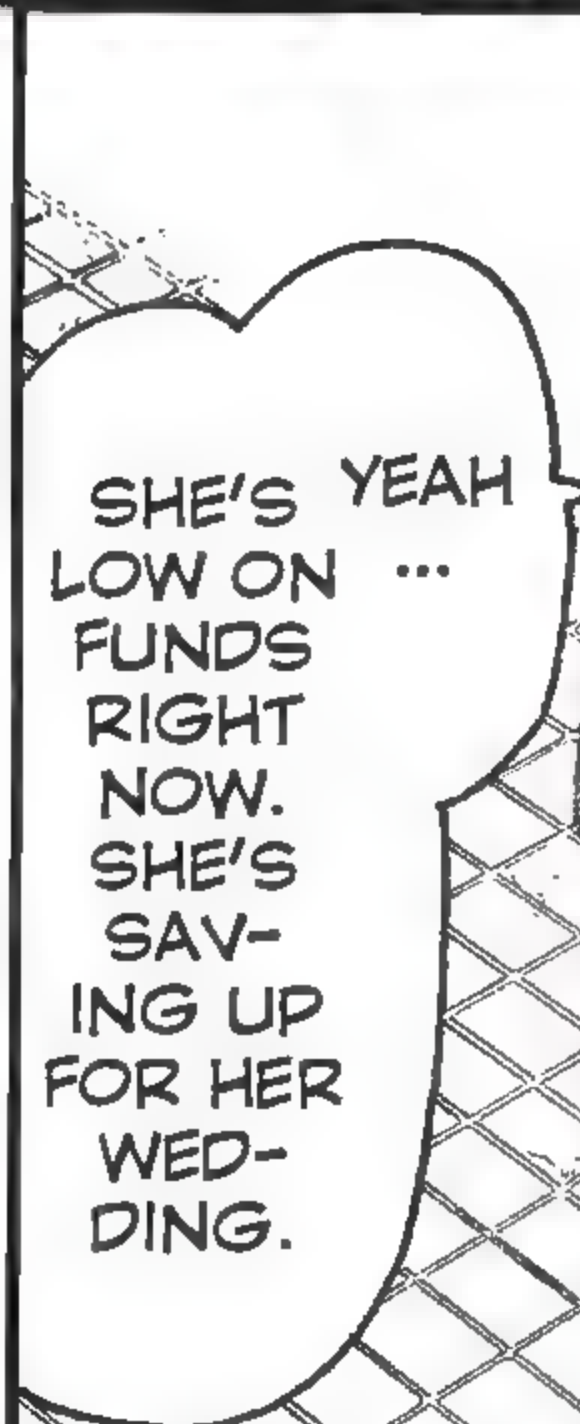
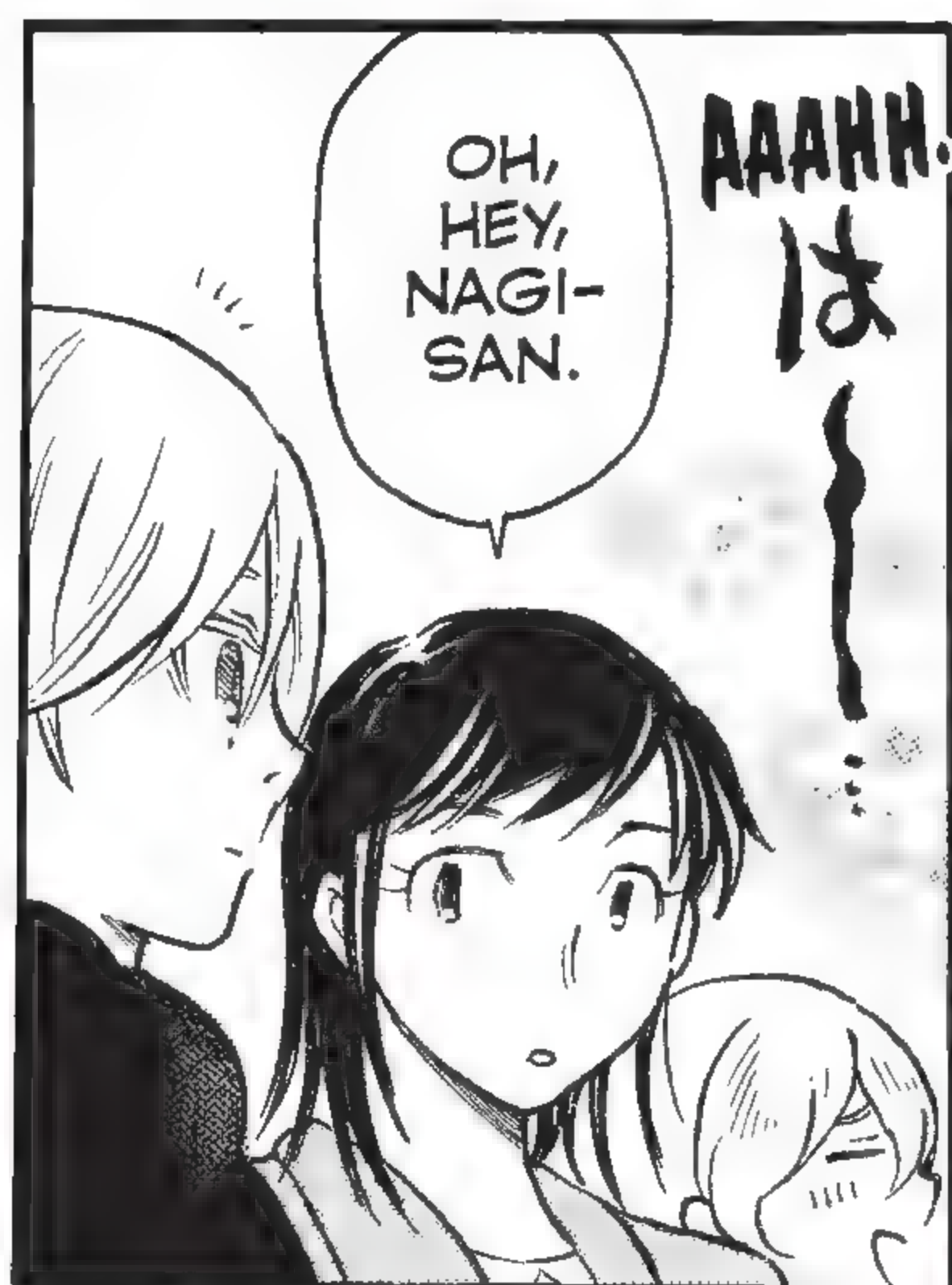


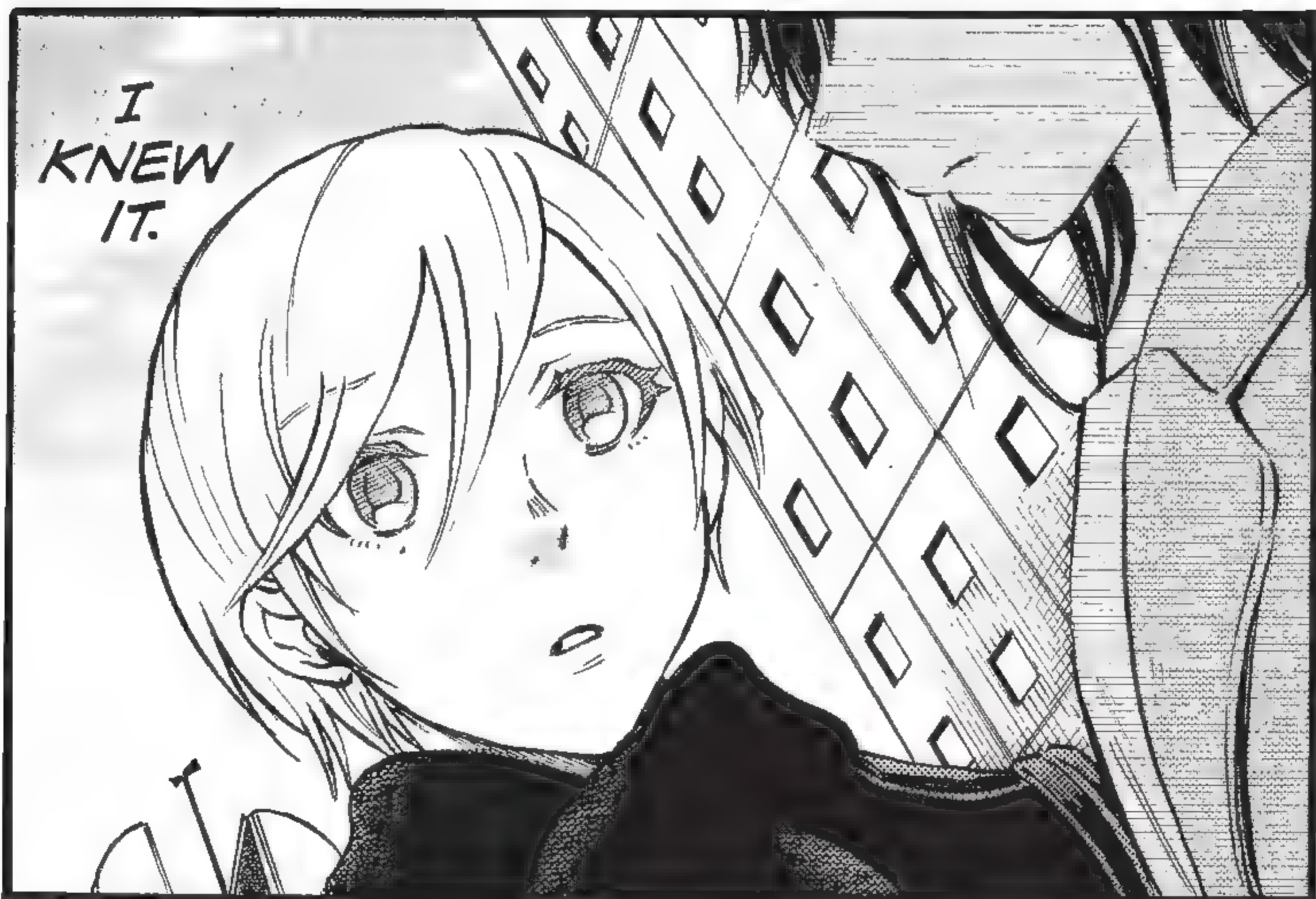




n.41▶▶▶▶▶n.42







I
KNEW
IT.



THAT'S
TOO
BAD.



NAGI-
SAAAAAN
!
COME
ON,
HURRY!



...WHEN
YOU'RE
NOT
HERE.

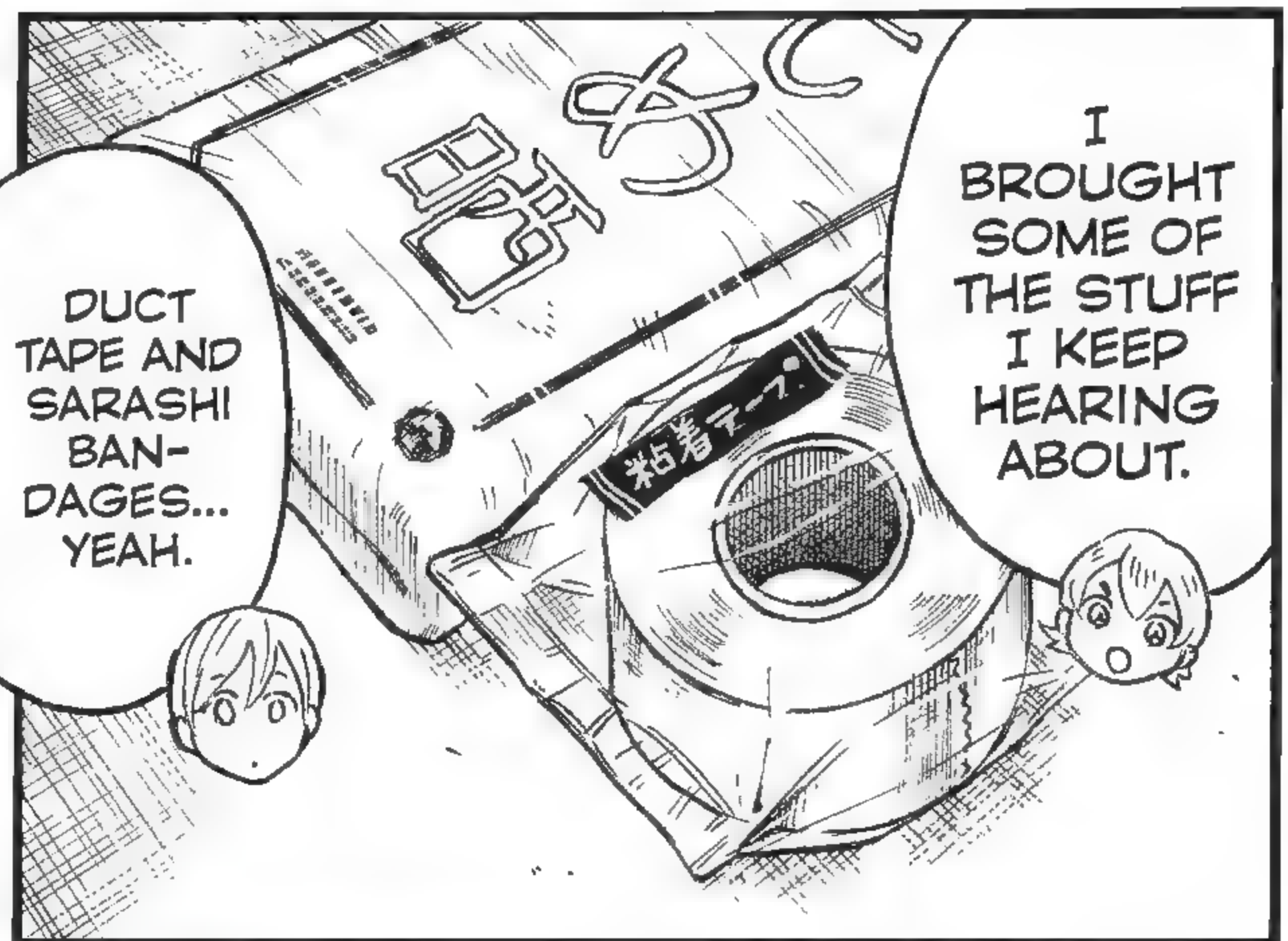
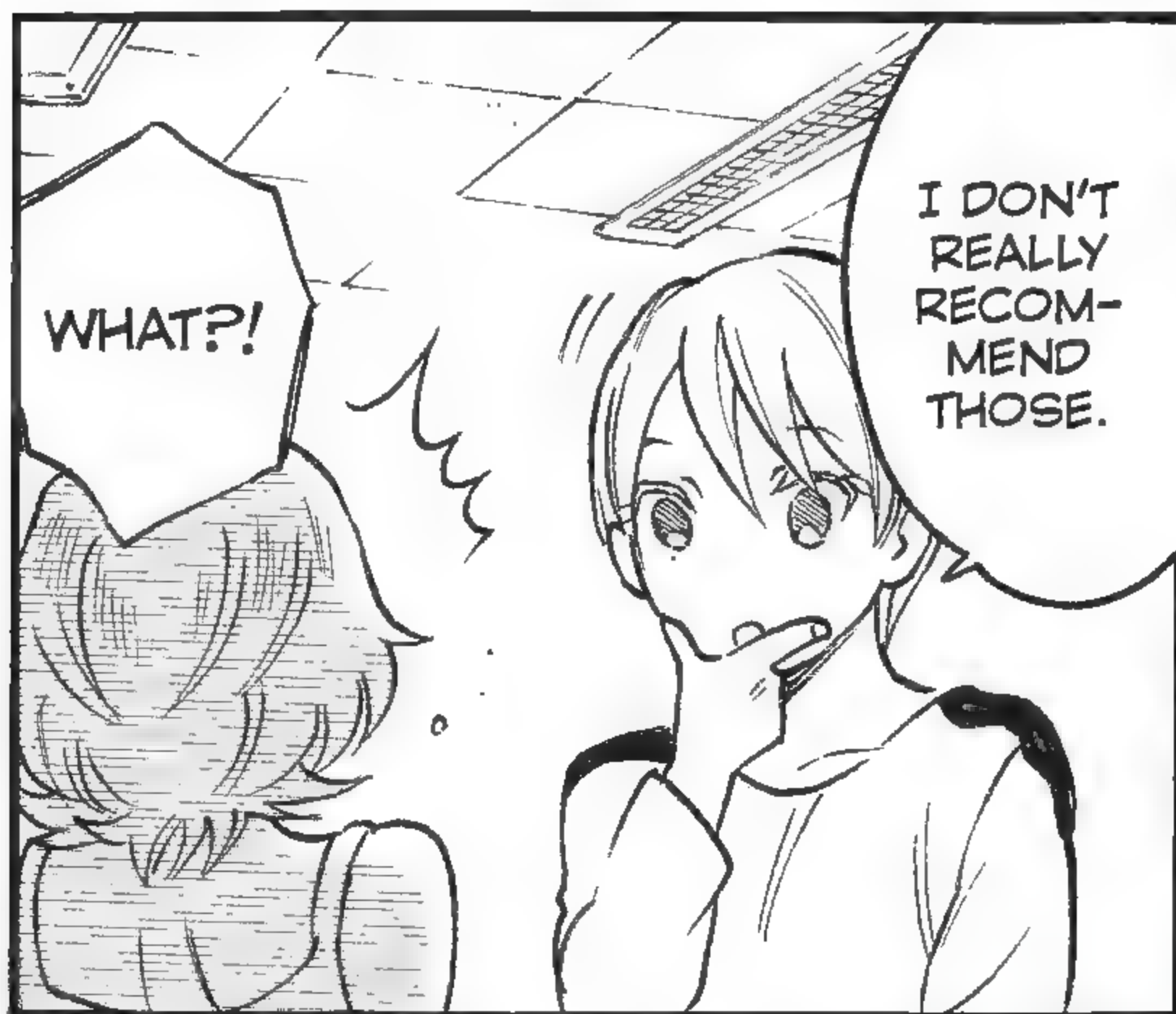
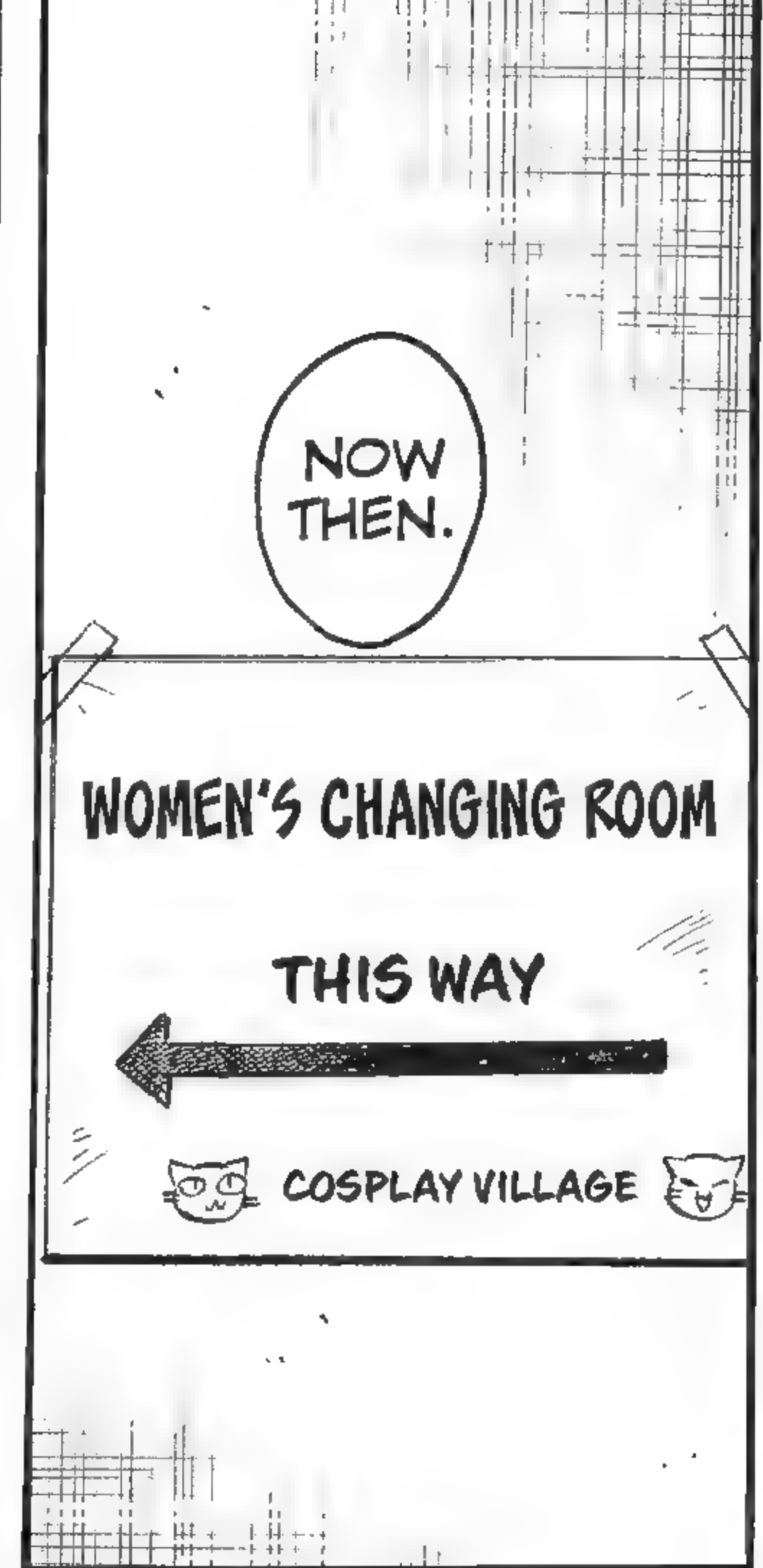
IT
MAKES
A BIG
DIFFER-
ENCE...



I HAVE
TO MAKE
SURE THE
GIRLS
DON'T
FIGURE IT
OUT.



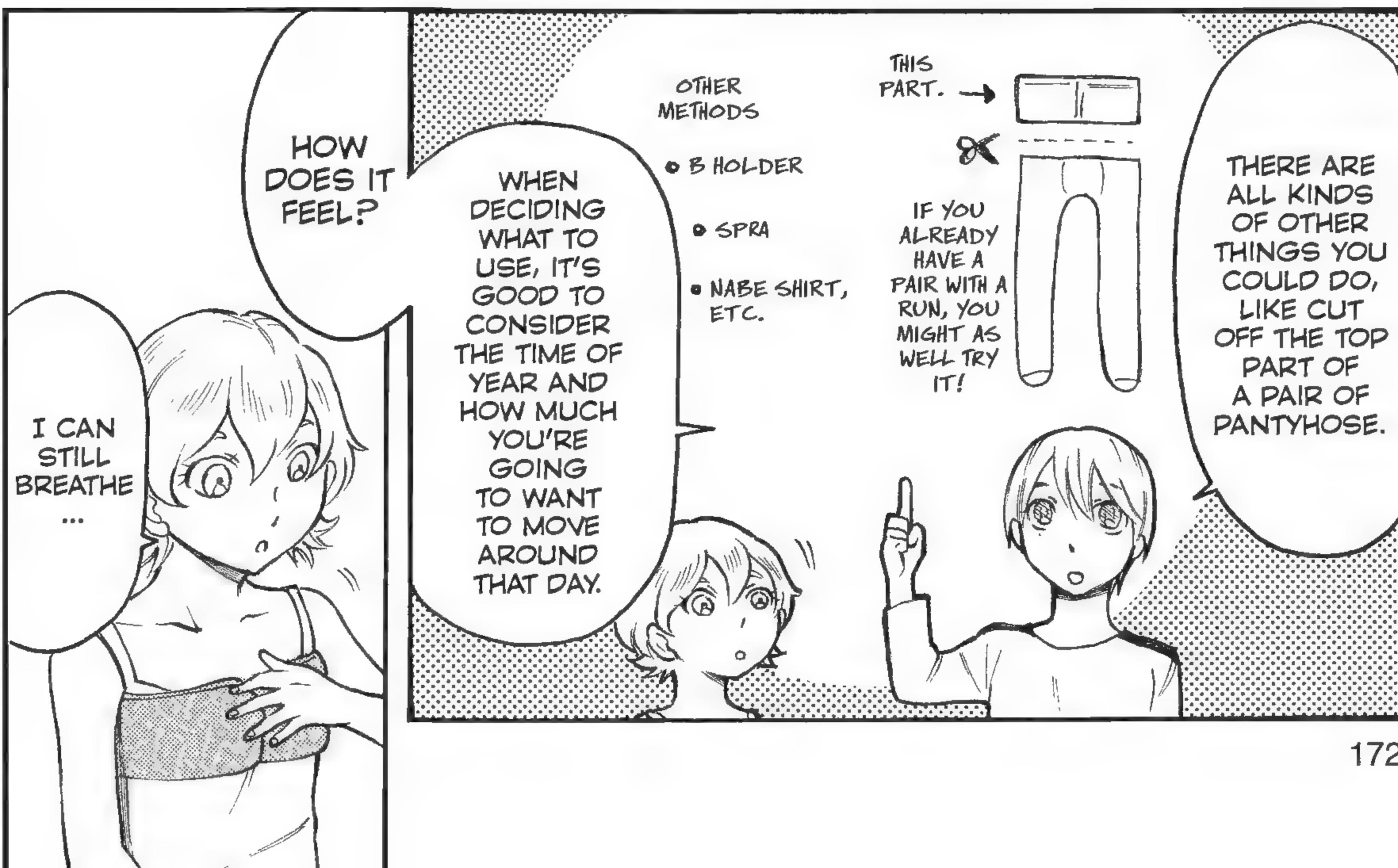
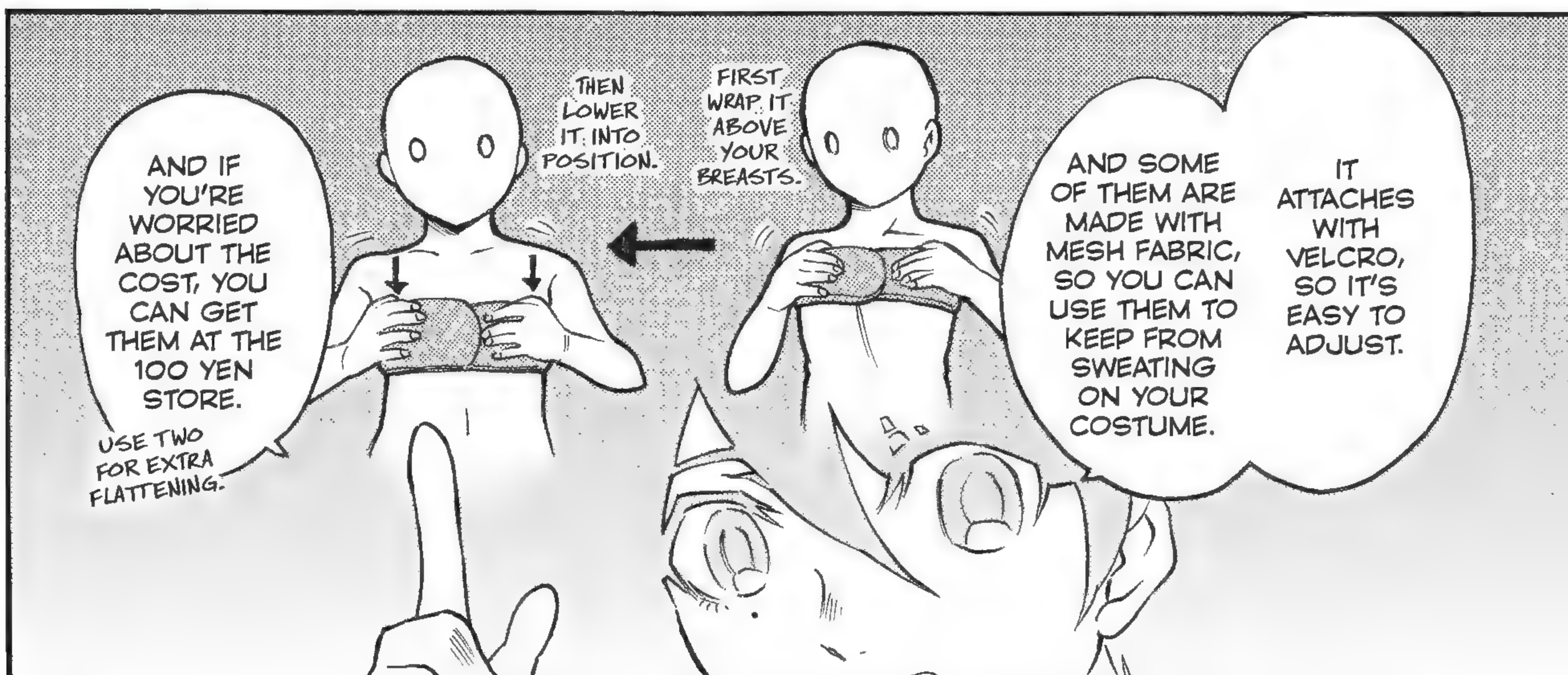
I
SHOULD
JUST
STOP
THINK-
ING
ABOUT
IT.



Label: Sarashi

Label: Adhesive Tape











GET OFF
OF HER,
AYA. I NEED
TO TAKE
PICTURES.



TO
THINK SHE
WOULD
DRIVE
SHIHO-
CHAN TO
MADNESS
...

THOSE EYES
WERE SO
SERIOUS...

NOW,
HOW
ABOUT
...
WOULD
YOU TRY
SITTING
DOWN?

タパ
SNAP

OKAY,
NAGI-SAN,
PUT YOUR
HAND
ON THAT
PILLAR...

NICE.

SNAP

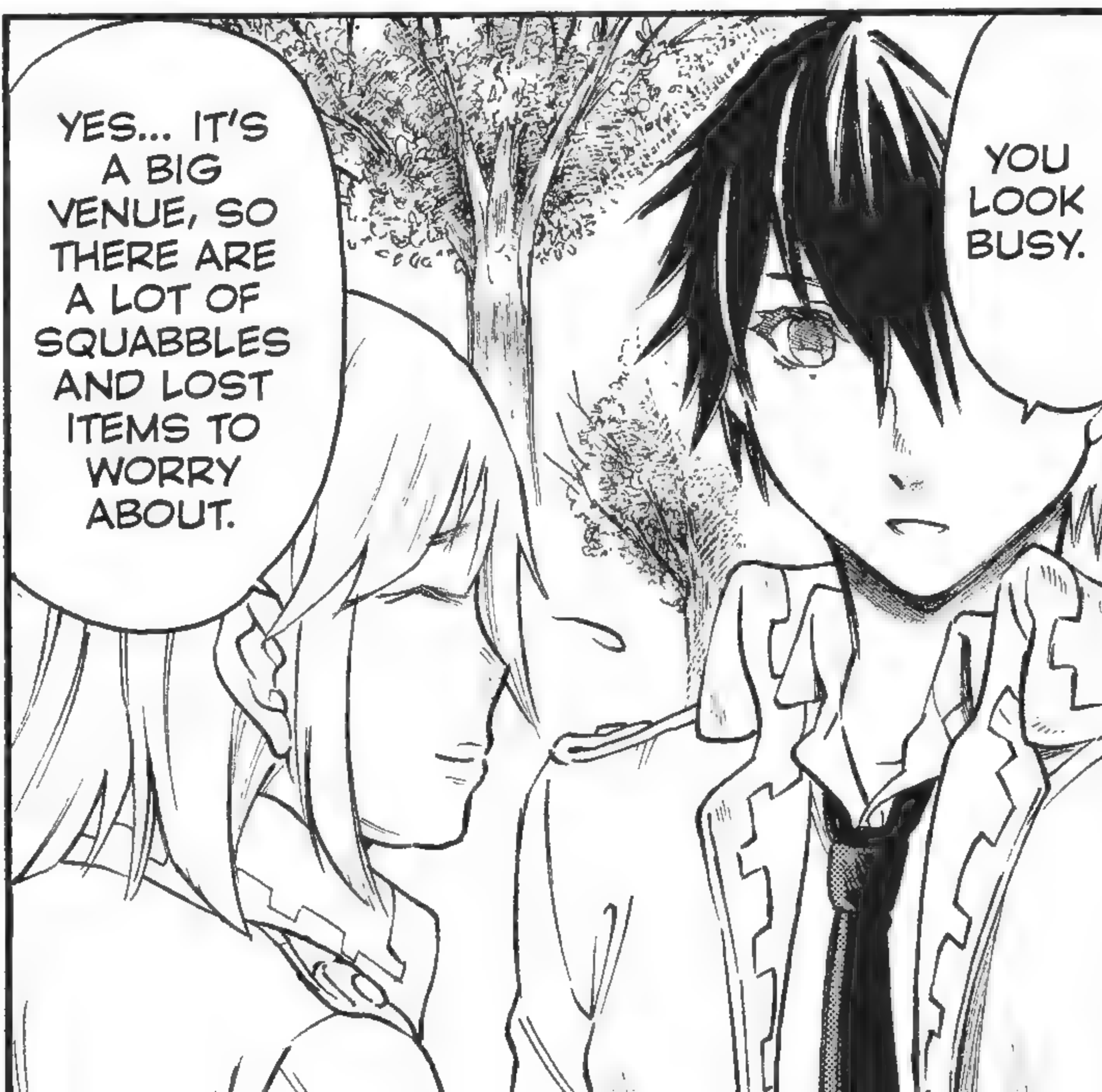
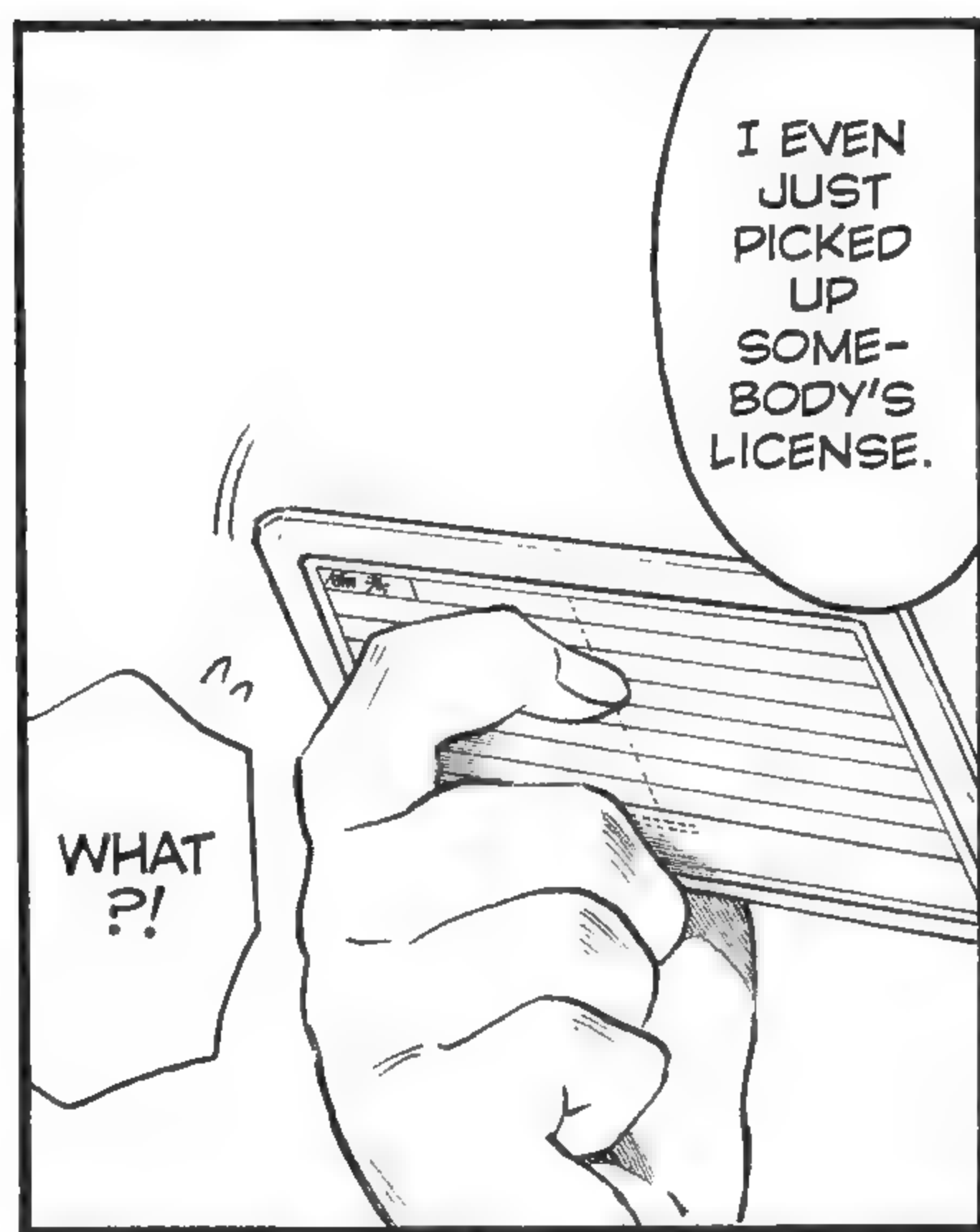
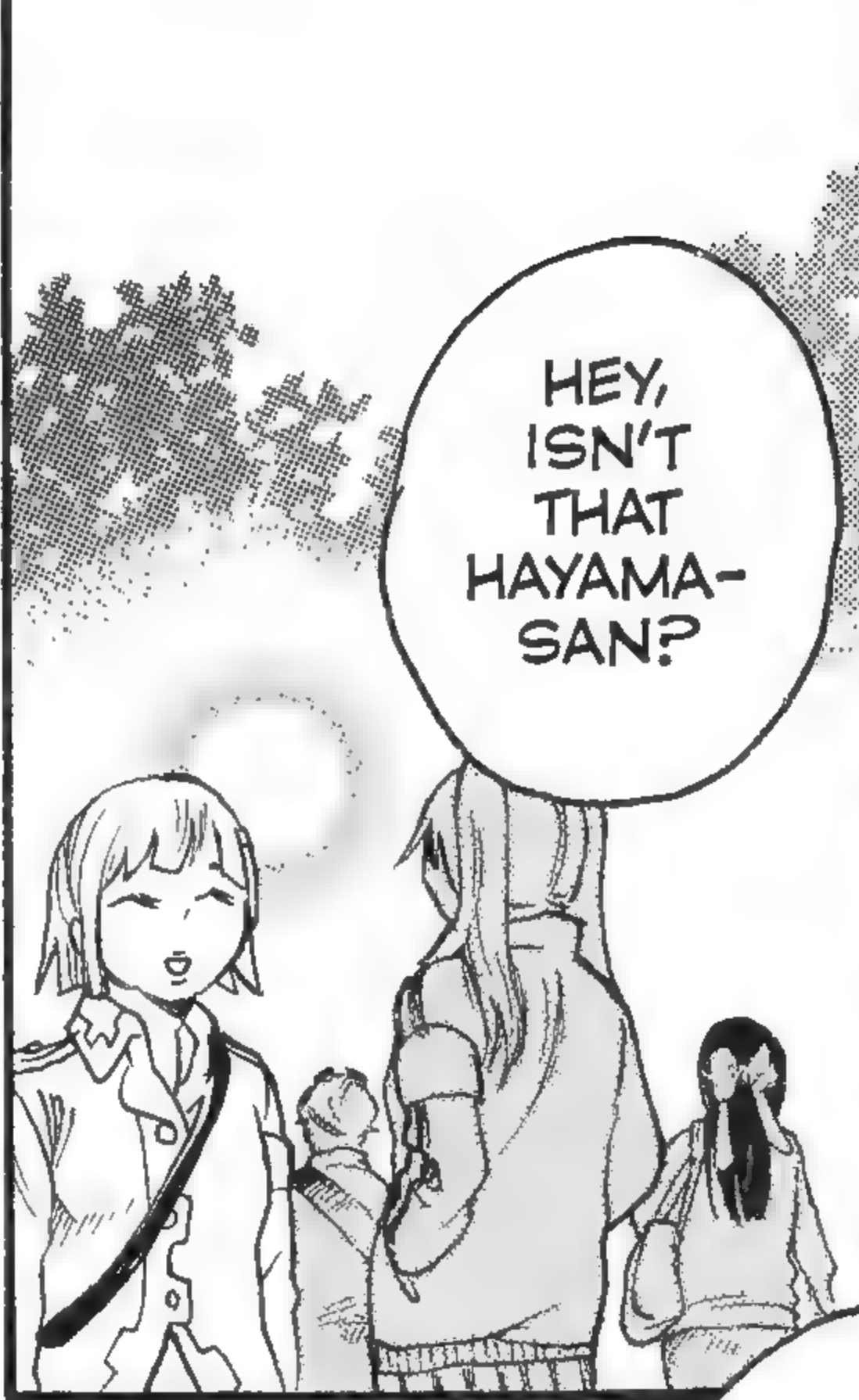


SHIHO-
CHAN, ARE
YOU OKAY?
AND I MEAN
THAT ON MANY
LEVELS.

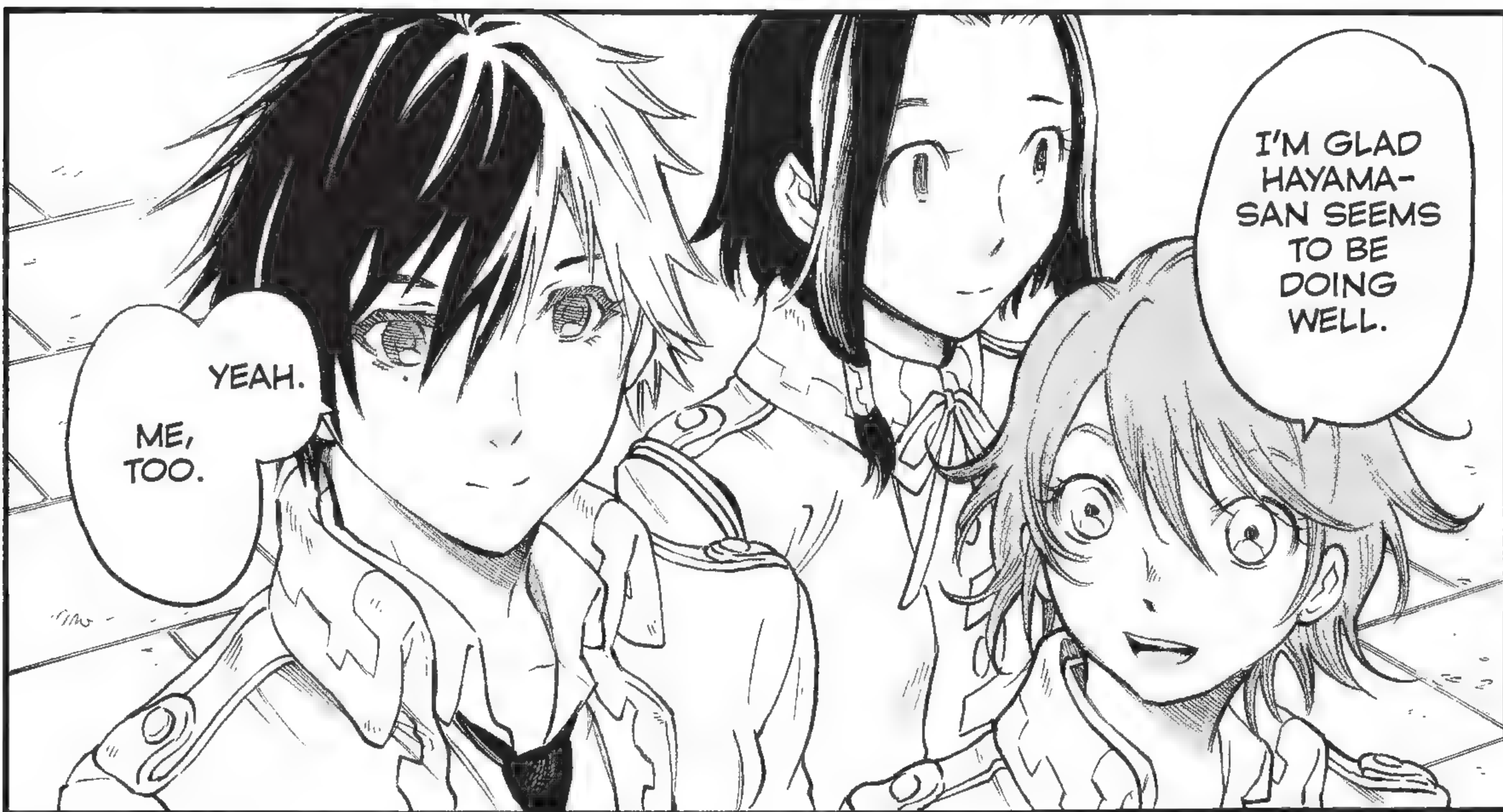
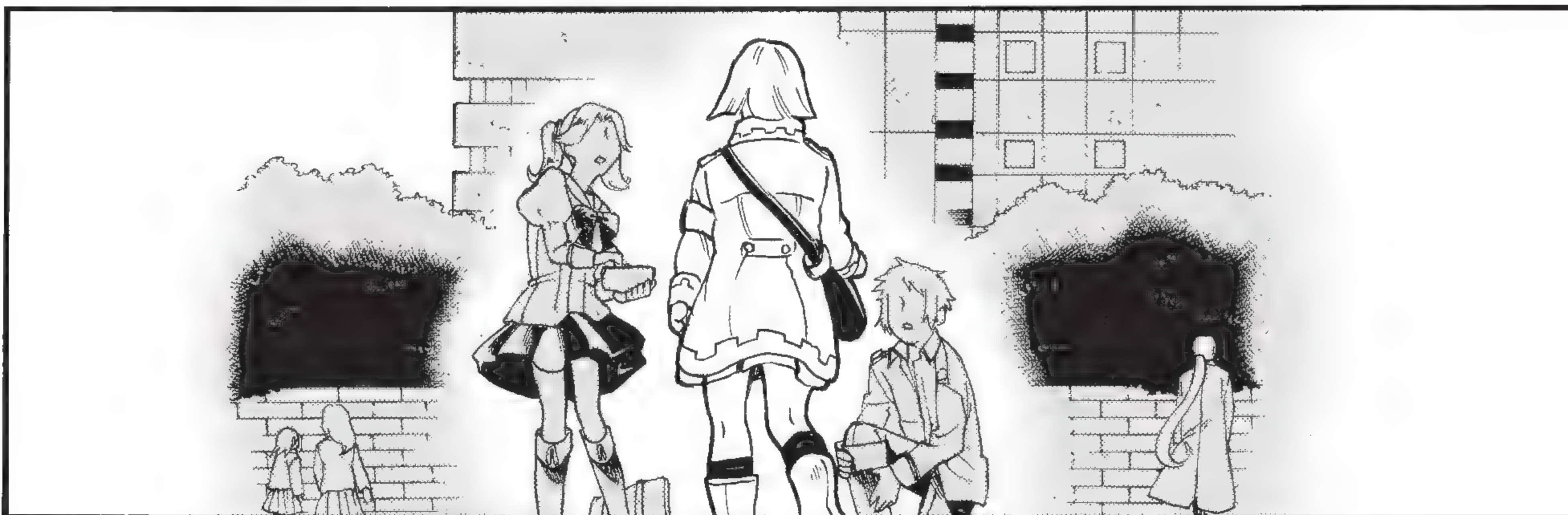
OKAY.

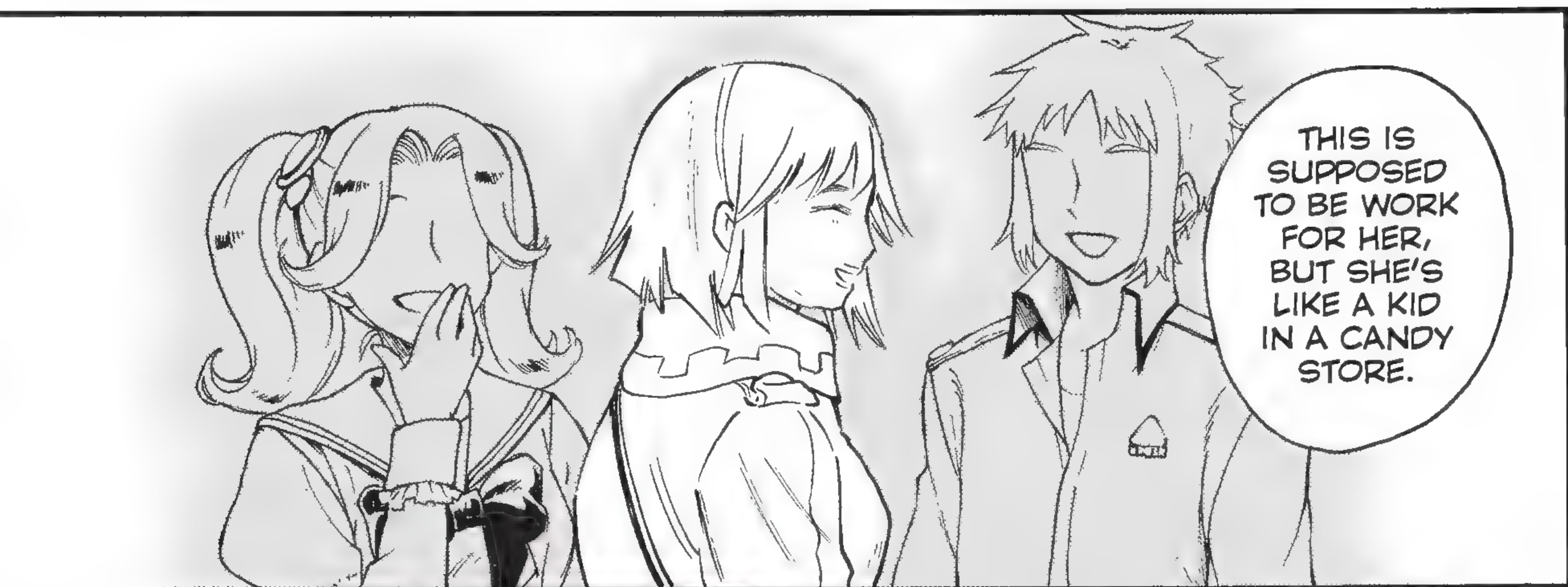
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

NOW, NOW,
THERE'S NO
RUSH. LET'S
WANDER
AROUND
AND SEE IF
WE CAN FIND
HAYAMA-
SAN.









THEN
WHERE
EXACTLY...

COME
ON,
LET'S
TAKE
PIC-
TURES!

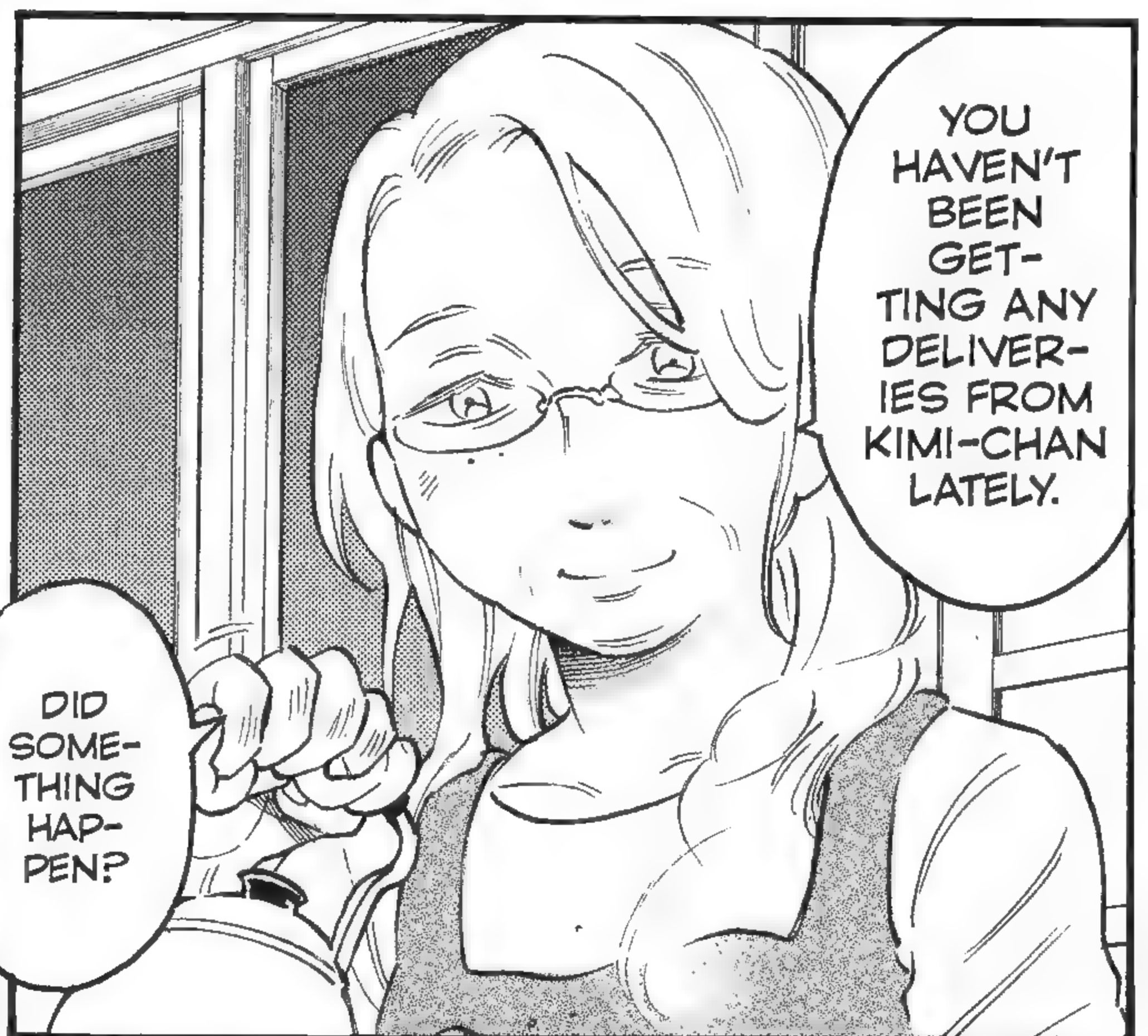
NOTH-
ING.

...IS MY
LIMIT?



YOU'VE
BEEN
ACTING
BLUE EVER
SINCE YOU
GOT BACK
FROM
SENDAI.

DID
SOME-
THING
HAP-
PEN?



YOU
HAVEN'T
BEEN
GET-
TING ANY
DELIVER-
IES FROM
KIMI-CHAN
LATELY.



NO,
NOTHING
LIKE THAT.

...
THANKS.



DID YOU
HAVE A
FIGHT?



SHE
QUIT.

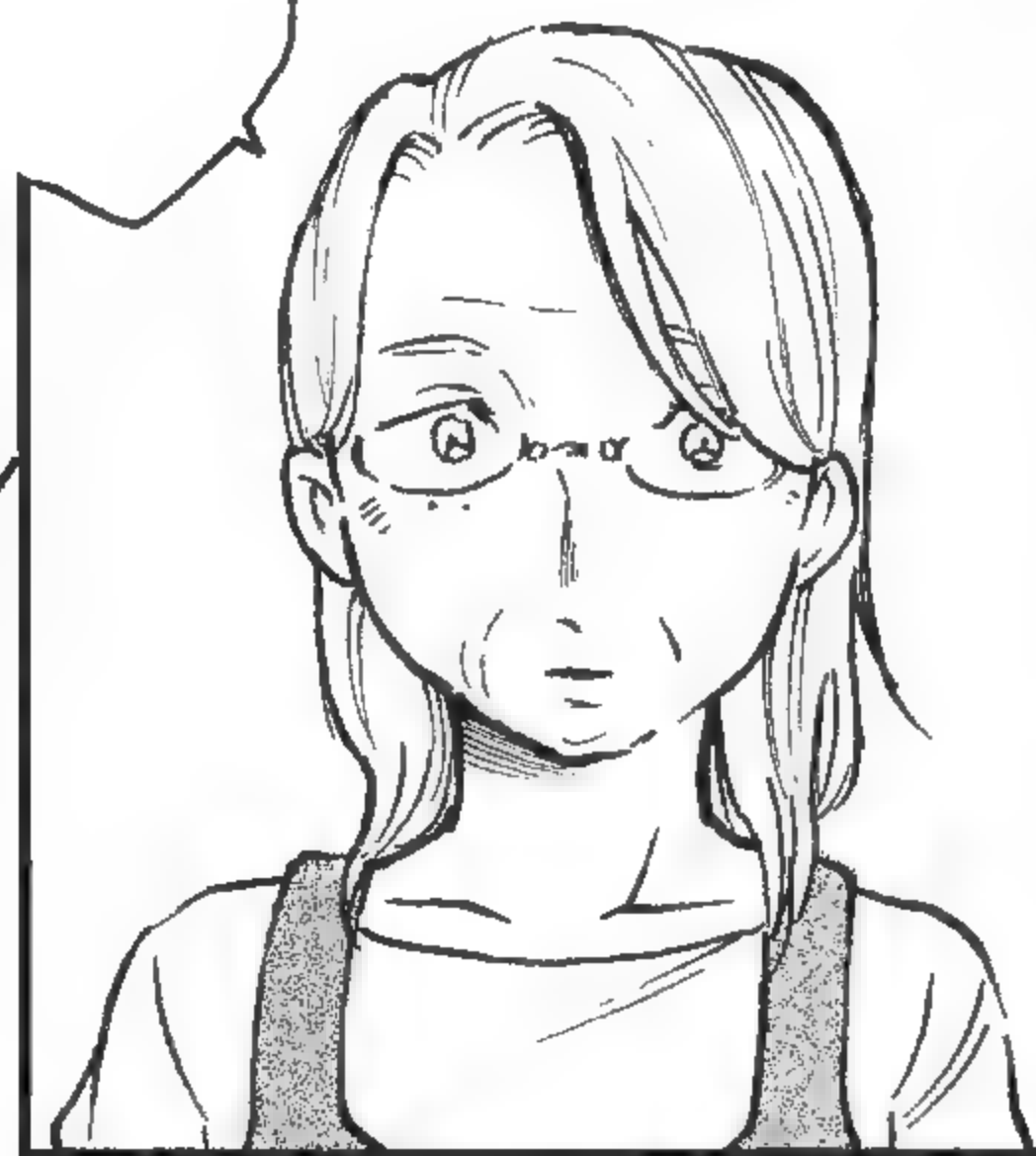


KIMIKO'S
NOT CO-
SPLAYING
ANYMORE.



OH...

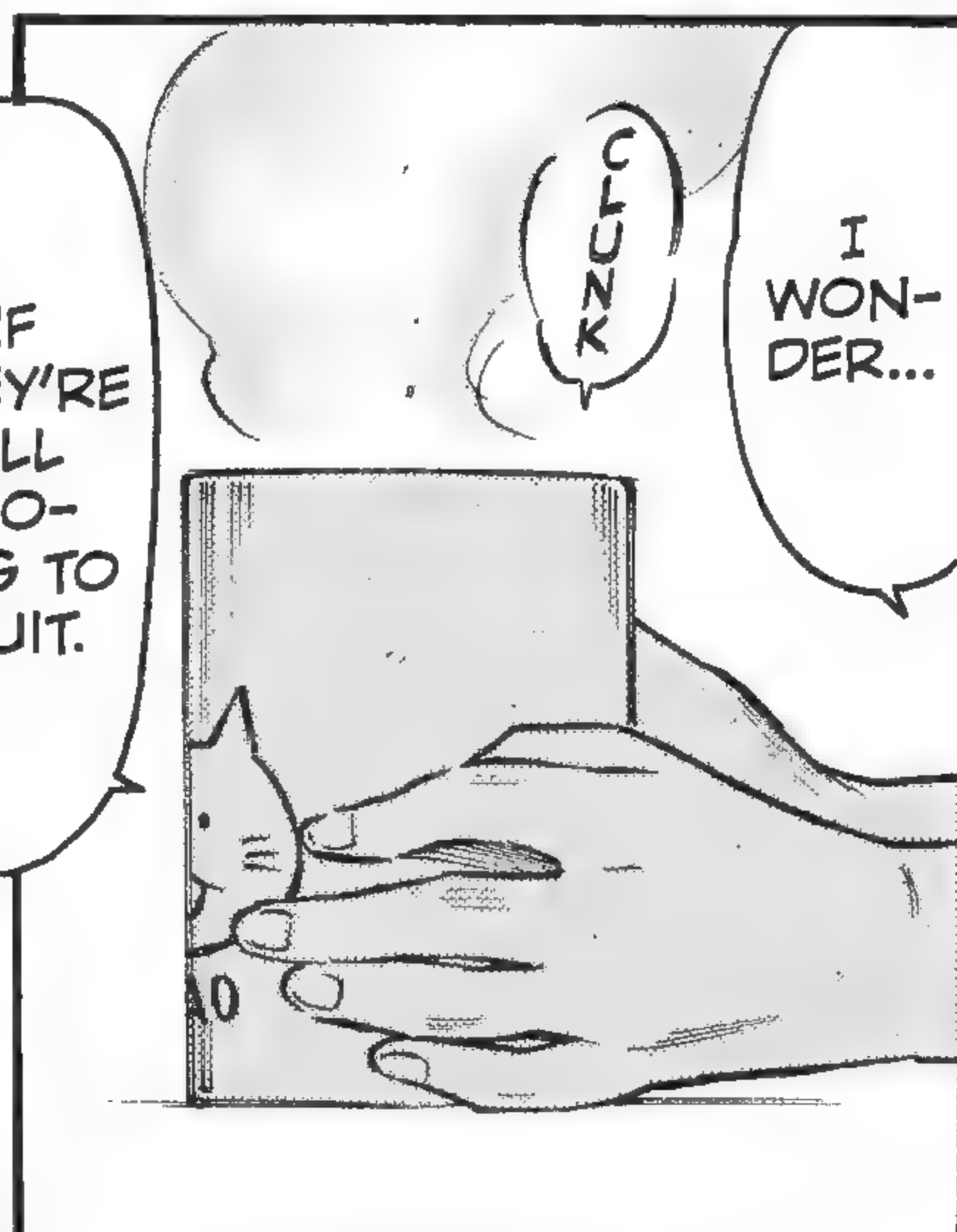
I SEE.



AND I
STILL
HAVE
FUN
DOING
IT...

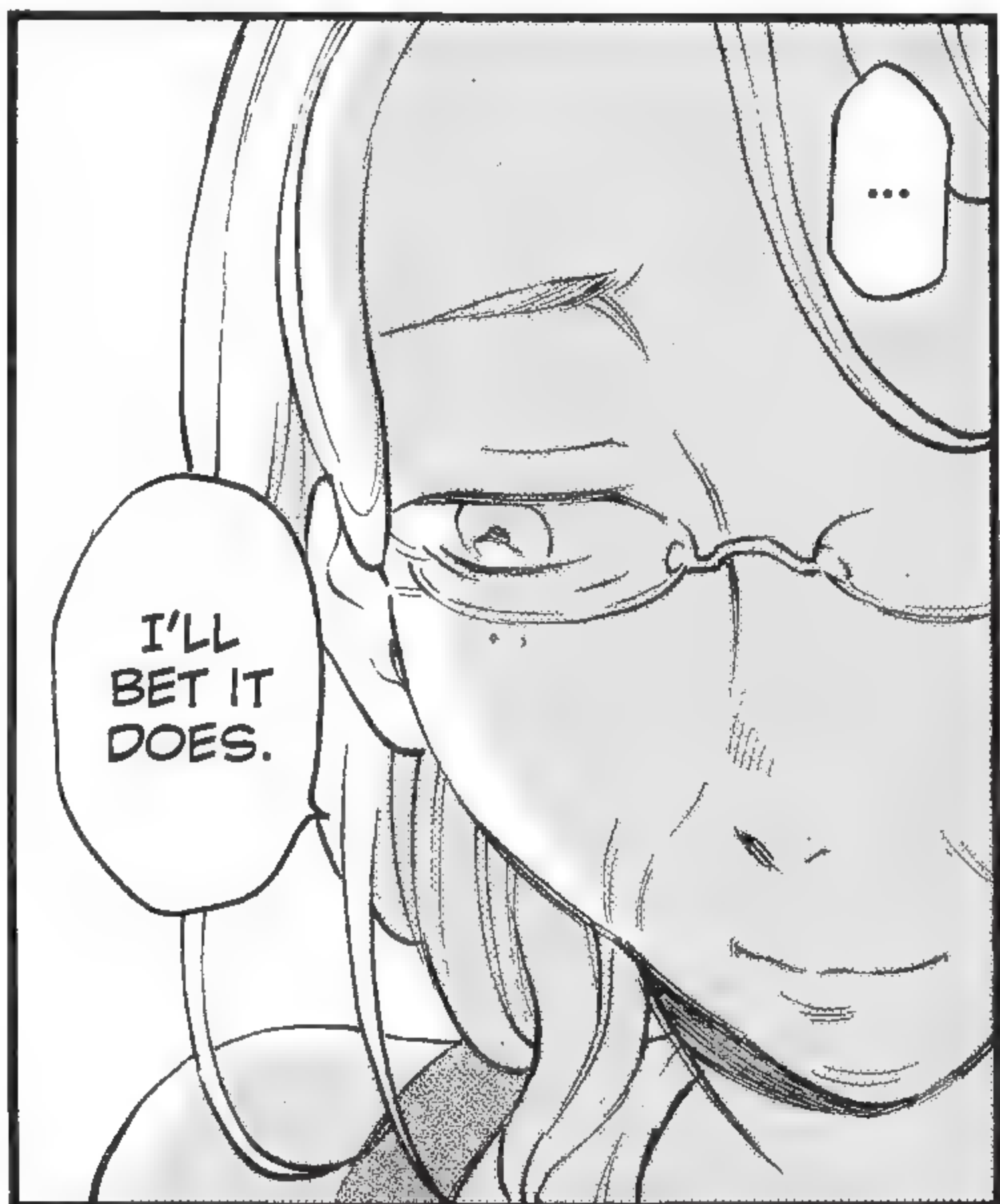
I KNOW
SOMEONE
OLDER
THAN ME
WHO'S
STILL
COSPLAY-
ING, AND
THAT'S
ENCOUR-
AGING.

IF THEY'RE
ALL
GO-
ING TO
QUIT.



KZCF-C

I WON-
DER...

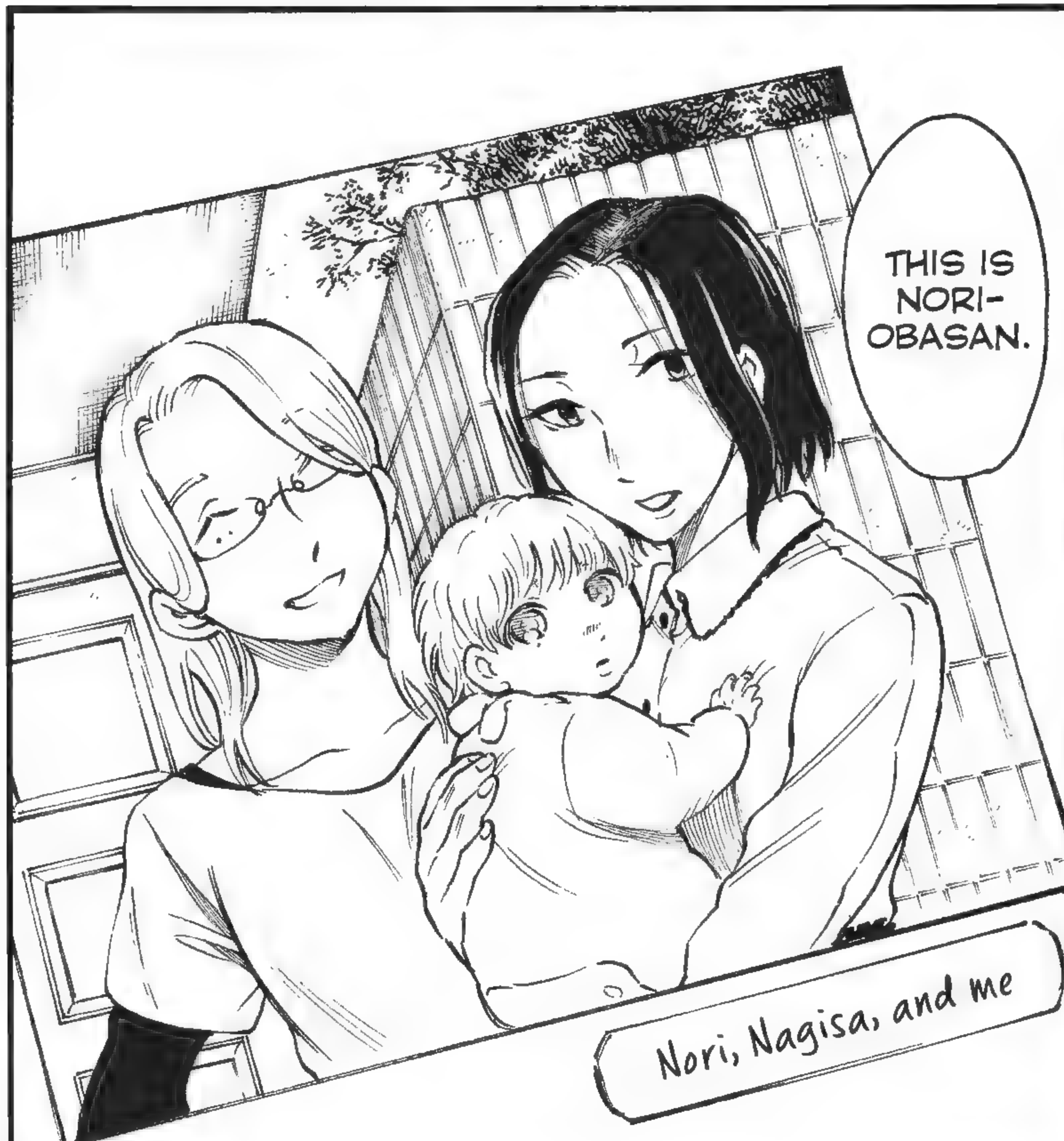
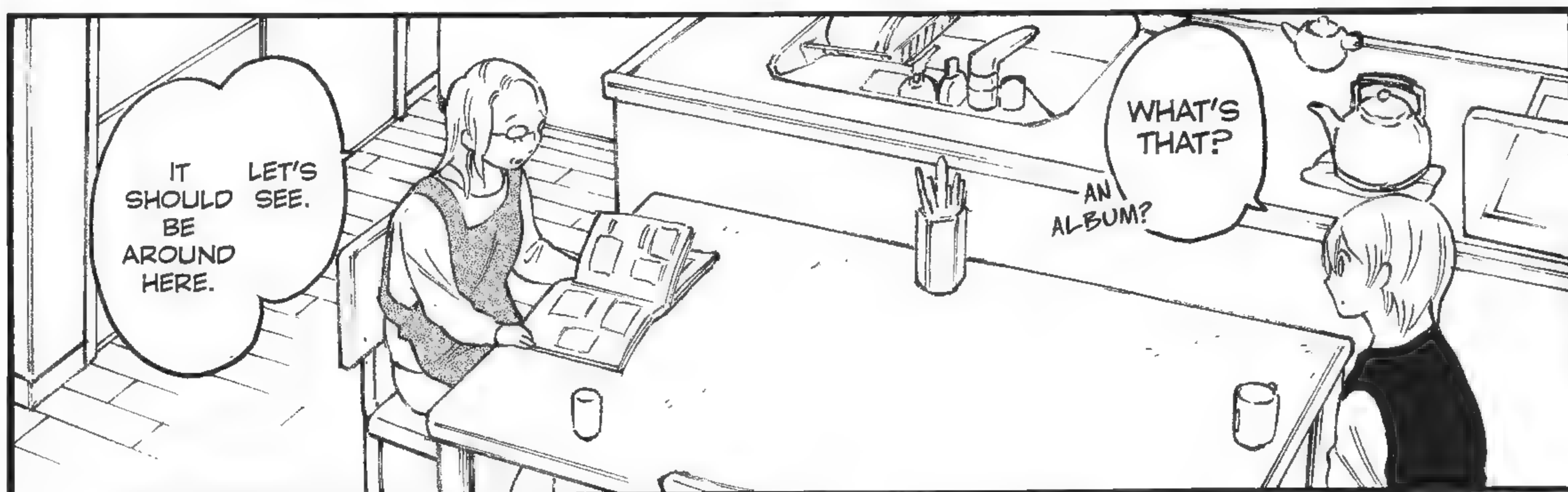
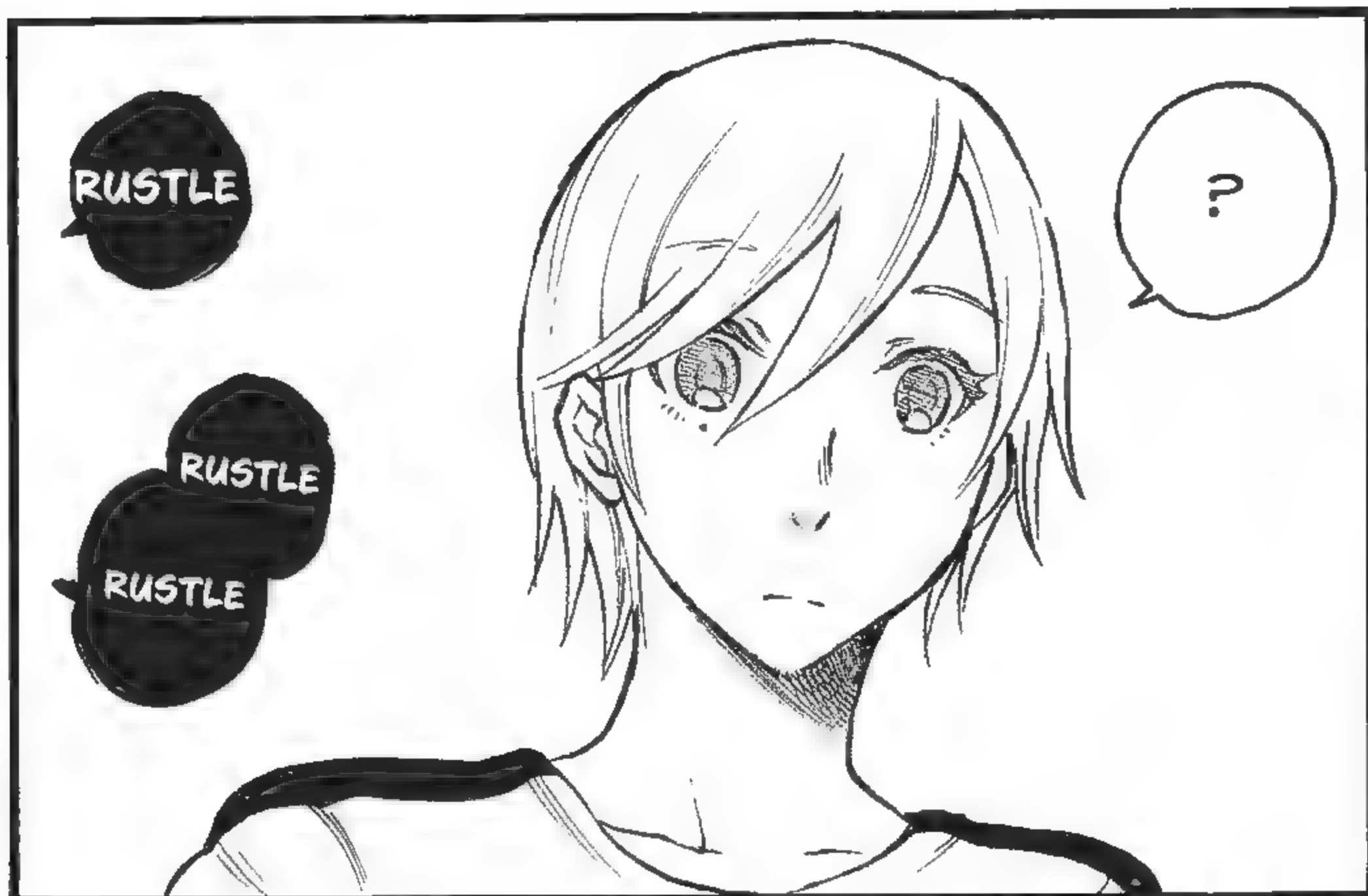


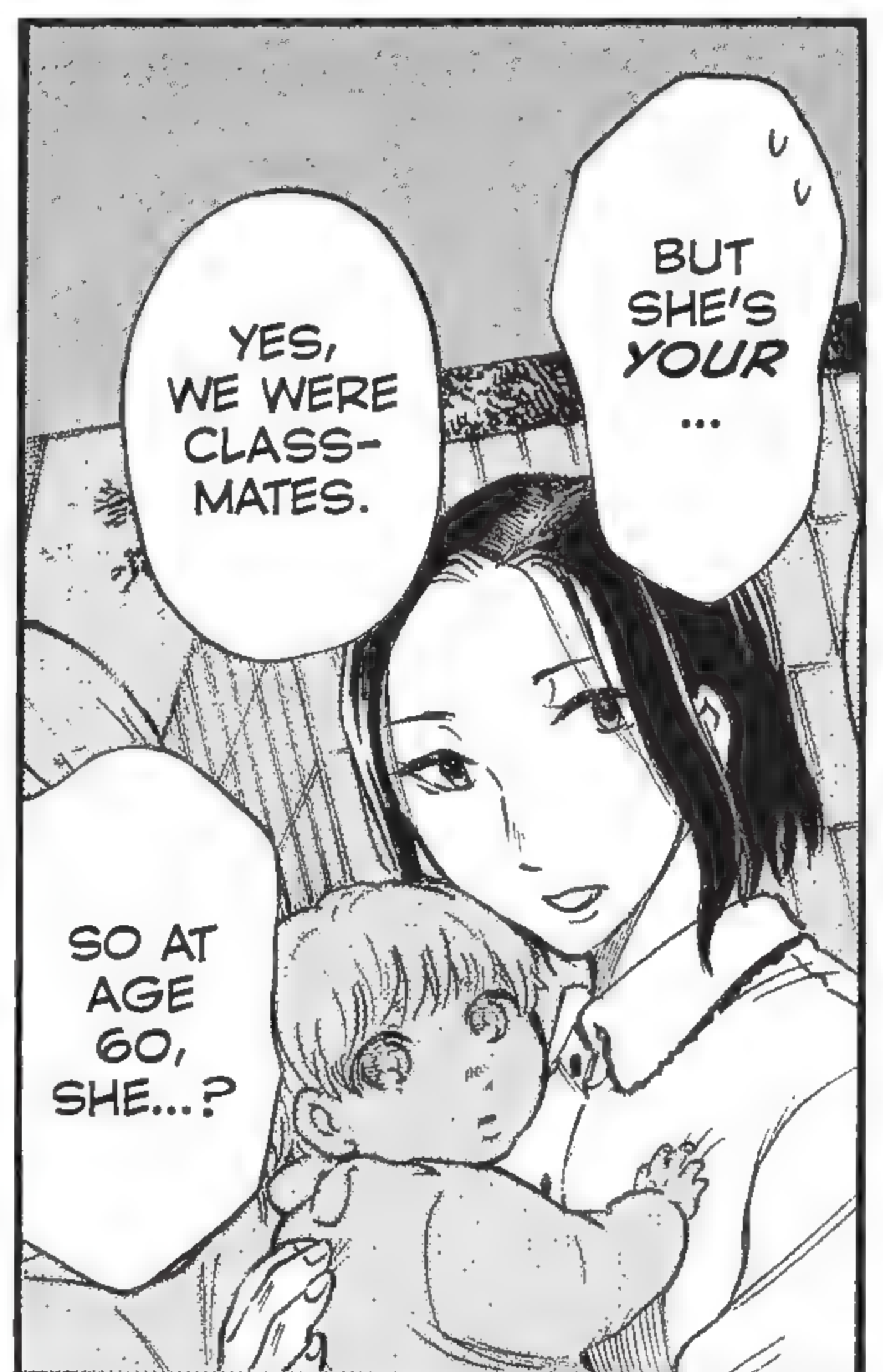
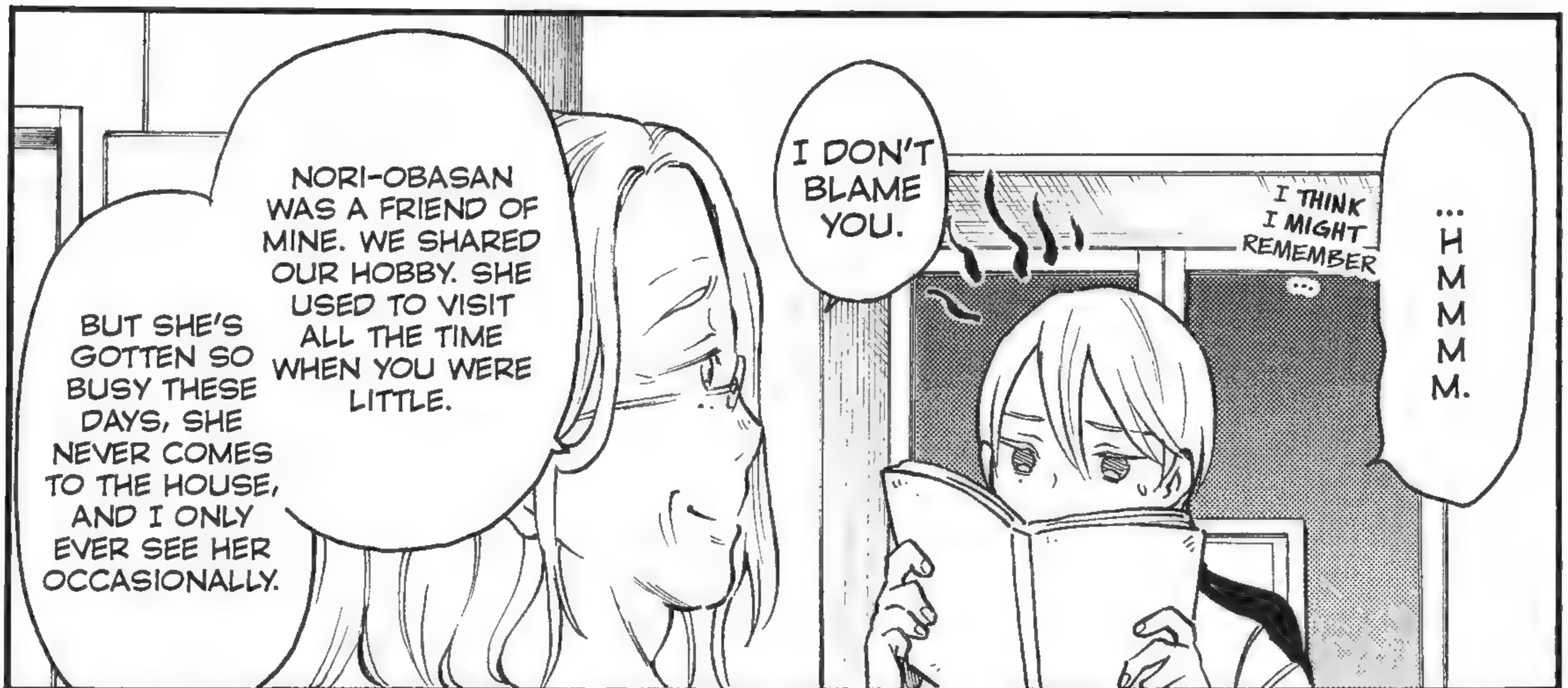
I'LL
BET IT
DOES.

...



BUT
I'M REAL-
IZING...IT
REALLY HITS
HARD WHEN
YOUR BEST
FRIEND
QUITS.







WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO MEET
HER?



SHE
MIGHT
BE ABLE
TO GIVE
YOU SOME
TIPS.



n.42 ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ ▶ n.43

to be continued

SEE
YOU
LATER!!

OH,
URURU'S
CALLING-
I GOTTA
GO!

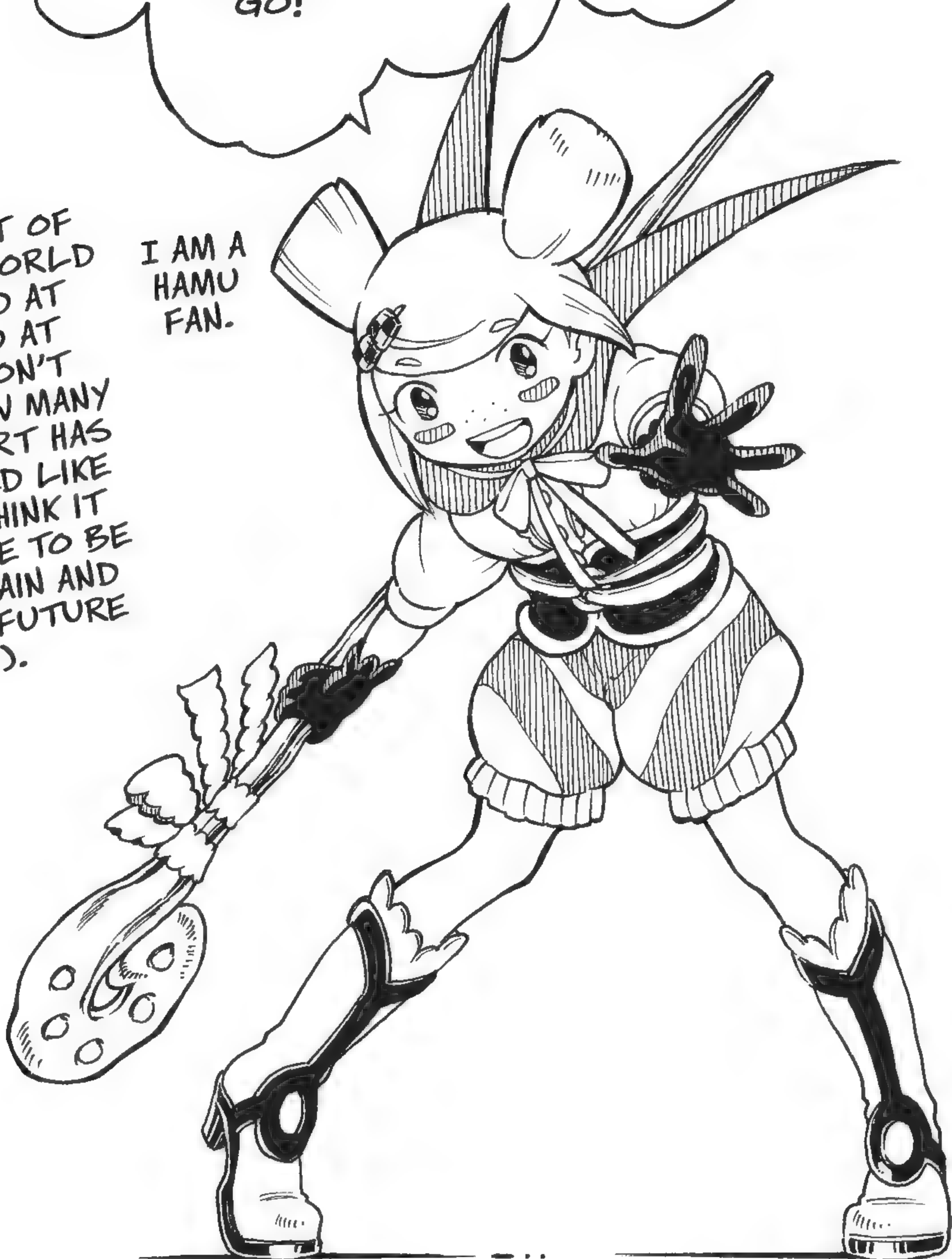
NEXT
ARE THE
BONUS
PAGES!

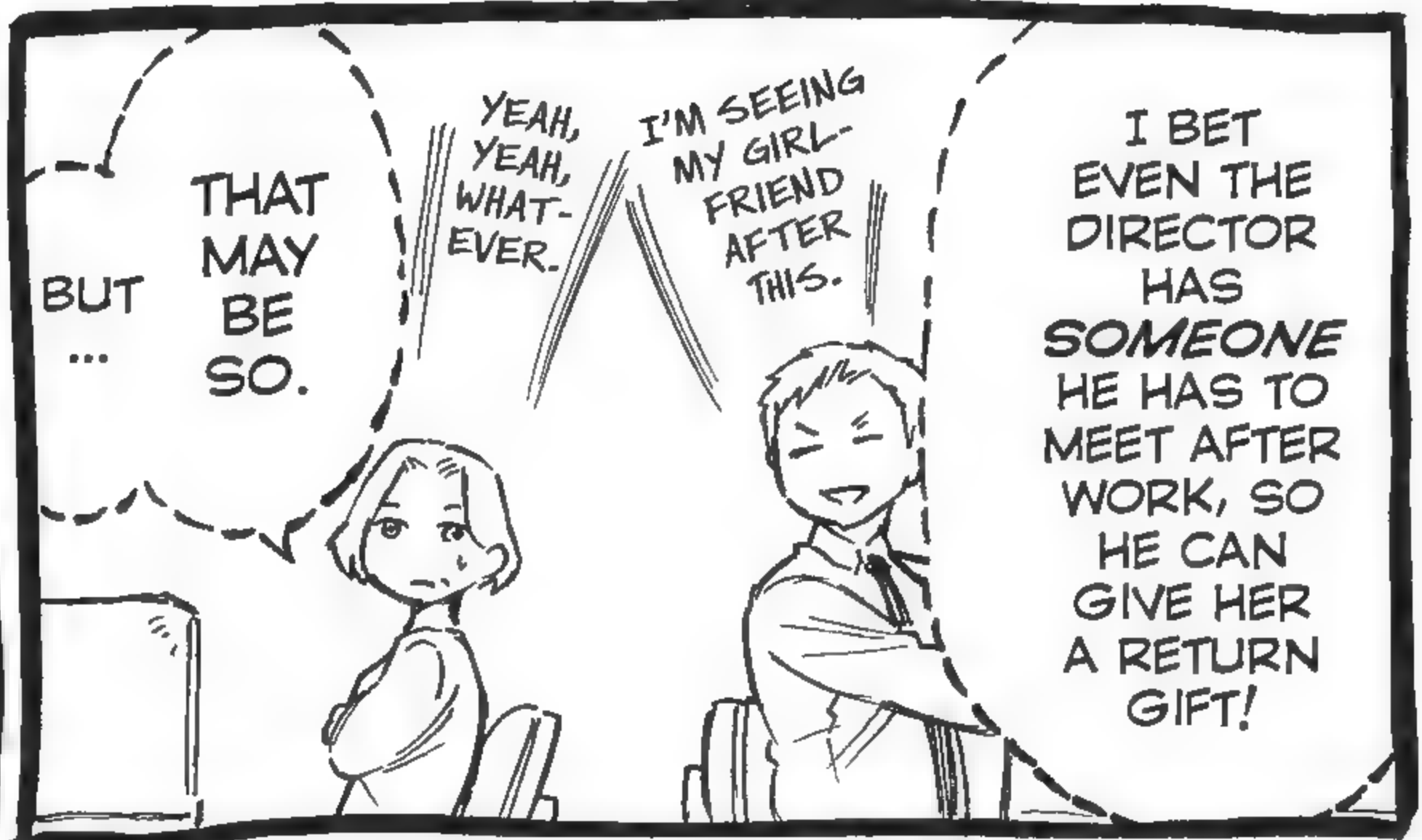
DID
YOU
ENJOY
THE
STORY?

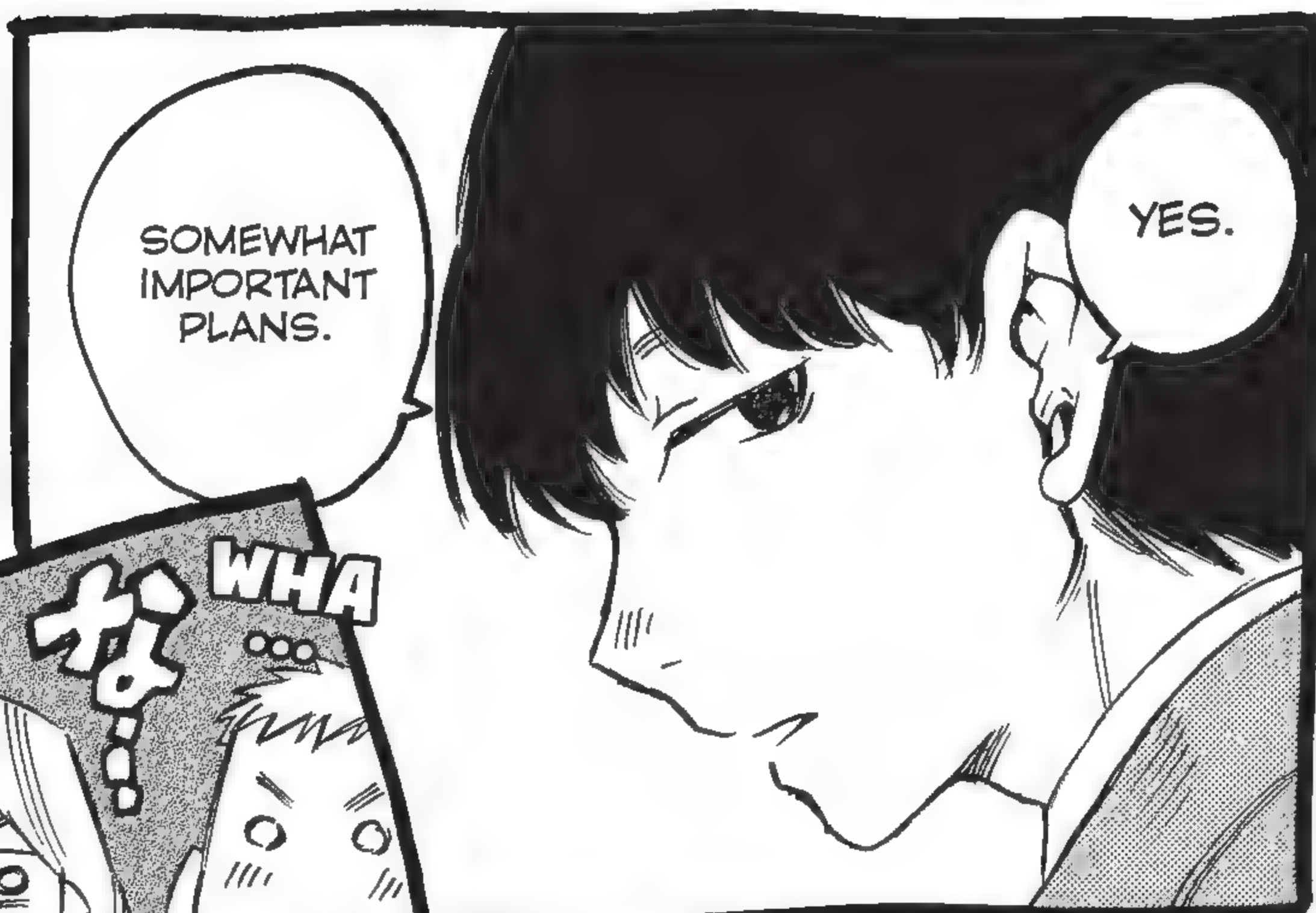
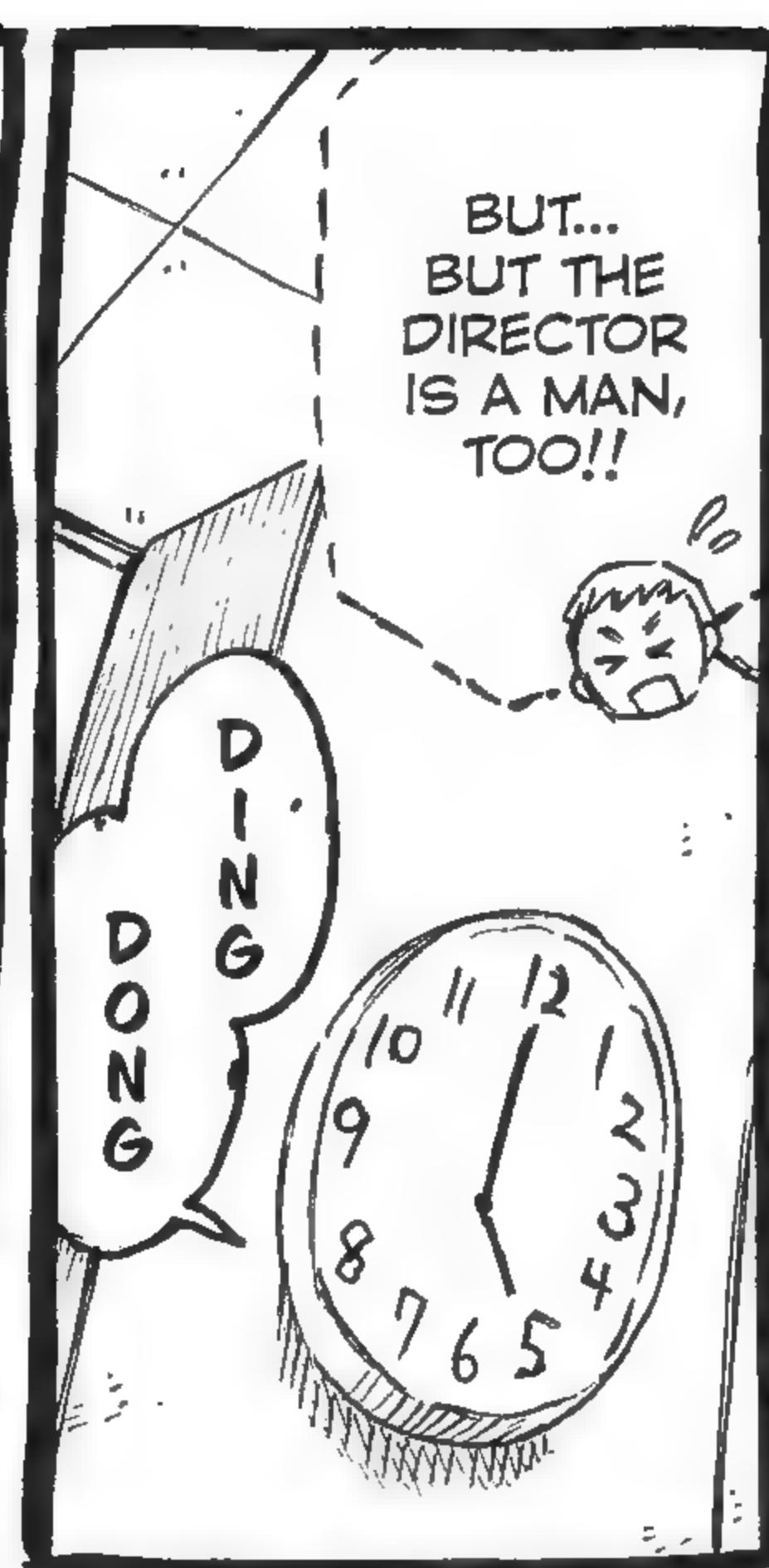
THERE ARE A LOT OF
PEOPLE IN THE WORLD
WHO ARE GOOD AT
MANGA, GOOD AT
DRAWING. I DON'T
EVEN KNOW HOW MANY
TIMES MY HEART HAS
BEEN CRUSHED LIKE
KIMIKO'S. I THINK IT
WILL CONTINUE TO BE
CRUSHED AGAIN AND
AGAIN IN THE FUTURE
(HA HA).

I AM A
HAMU
FAN.

OKAY,
I'LL
DO MY
BEST.
NOW,
ON TO
THE
BONUS
MANGA.



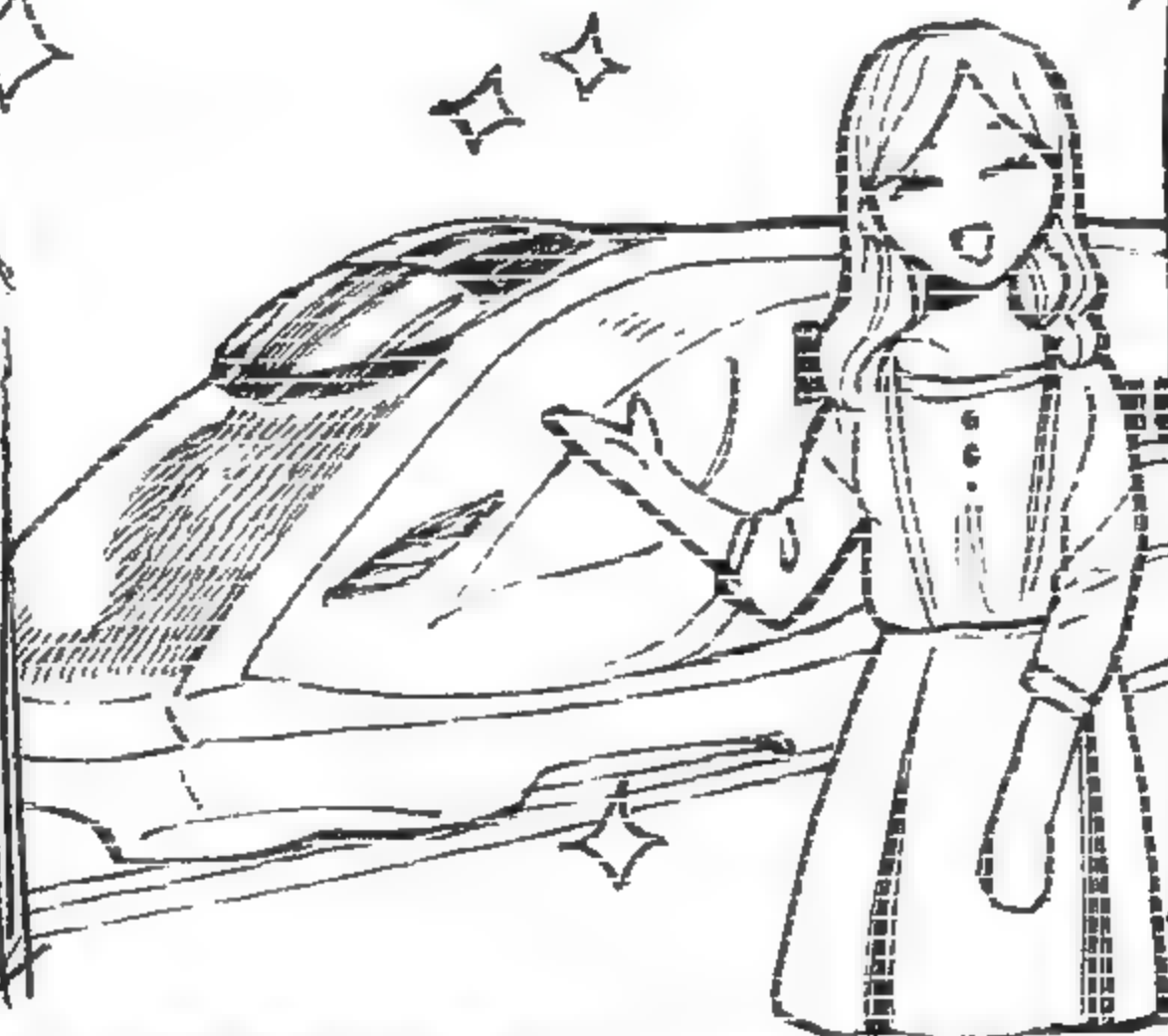




Celebrating!
The Hokuriku Shinkansen Opens

Today's Hottest Topic

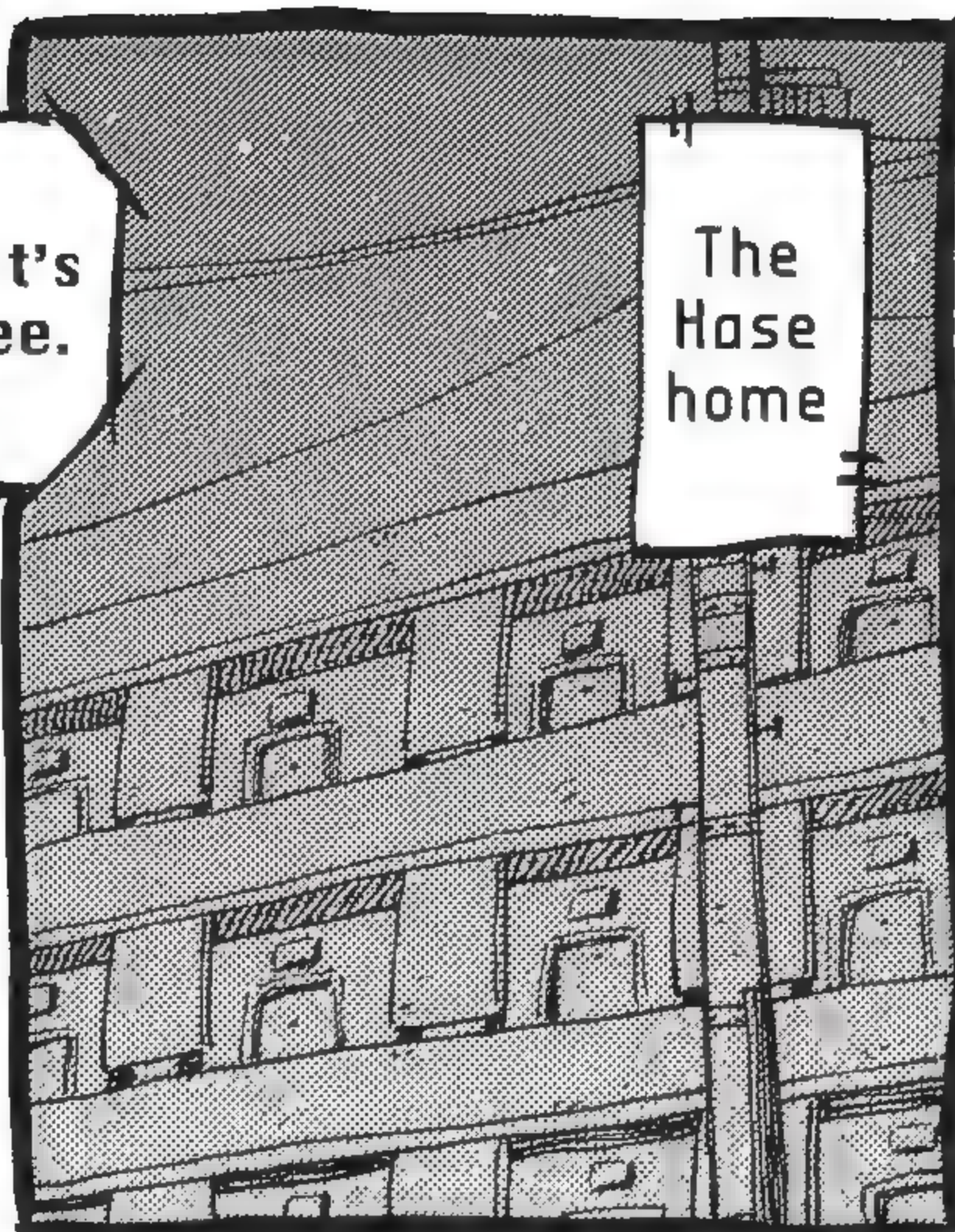
Reserved
seats for
its first
train, the
Kagayaki,
sold out in
a mere 25
seconds.



Today,
March
14th, we
celebrate
the open-
ing of the
Hokuriku
Shinkan-
sen!

Let's
see.

The
Hase
home



...will
bring more
activity
to their
regions
of the
country.

MM-
HM.



MM-
HM.

The local
citizens
have
expressed
high hopes
that the
operation
of a new
bullet
train...

**DIRECTOR
HASE
DECIDED TO
SPEND THE
NEXT MARCH
14TH IN
HOKURIKU.**

AND NOW WE'D
LIKE TO SHOW
YOU SOME
FOOTAGE
FROM...

A TOAST TO
TODAY...



I'M
HAPPY
FOR
YOU...

I'M SO
HAPPY
THAT YOU
MADE
IT TO
OPENING
DAY.

※ REGULAR STAFF

RANA SATŌ
NAGOMU HARAGUCHI
AENA MIYASATO
YŌKO

※ EDITOR

KŌJI TERAYAMA
NATSUMI ŌMACHI

Complex 5

※ DESIGNER

KŌHEI
NAWATA
MIZUKI
NAKASHIMA

※ SPECIAL THANKS

TSUMA
SAKABA-SAN

THANK
YOU TO
EVERYONE
WHO READS
THIS MANGA!



Cospedia

[GLOSSARY OF COSPLAY TERMS]



Supervisor: コスプレイモード
COSPLAY MODE

The cosplay magazine that has taken over the reins of *Cosmode* magazine, which ran until spring 2014. It publishes everything related to cosplay, including pinup photos, fan-submitted cosplay photos, and information on costumes, makeup, photography, armor and prop building, and cosplay culture. Released on the 3rd of every even-numbered month. (Published by Famima.com)

that time lapse videos have been posted to the internet showing the formation of the entry line, as well as its organized movement once the doors are opened. It is recommended that first-time Comiket attendees arrive in the afternoon, when it is possible to get into the venue without a wait.

► Page 18

“People fall like rubble...”

This is a famous line spoken by Colonel Muska in the Studio Ghibli animated film, *Laputa: Castle in the Sky* (released August 1986), directed by Hayao Miyazaki. He said it with a cackle as he watched the crew of the Air

Cure. The Kamikita Twins, who have done the manga version of the *Precure* series since its first season, are twin sisters who work together on the manga, and established a reputation for quality early on.

► Page 15

“But it’s gonna be super crowded.”

If an attendee arrives on the first train, the average wait time to get into Comiket (see Volume 3: Comiket) is approximately five hours (from the Comiket official website). The act of waiting has become such a famous part of the Comiket experience

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► Page 10

The manga of a morning kids’ show

The manga based on a television show aimed at children. A few TV channels broadcast children’s shows in the morning time slots on Saturdays and Sundays, the most notable of which being the special effects (*tokusatsu*) hero shows (like *Masked Rider* and the *Power Rangers* series) and animated shows like *Pretty*

Costume Set

A store-bought set containing items needed for cosplay. Some sets include not only jackets and skirts, but hair accessories and shoes, as well.



in large cities (see Volume 1: “I’d rather look around for something cheaper. But since I don’t have time, then it’s nice I can come here.”). It has a wide selection of products, mainly focusing on household goods, and they have an especially complete collection of DIY products (short for “do it yourself,” DIY refers to doing home projects yourself, as opposed to relying on stores or professionals).

Destroyer Goliath fall to their deaths after he shot it down. The line is frequently used to refer to the crowds at Comiket. Muska’s real name is Romuska Palo Ur Laputa, and he is voiced by Minoru Terada (Mark Hamill in the most recent English version).

n.35

► Page 25

Tokyu Hands

A chain of home improvement centers that can mainly be found

young people who couldn’t afford a more lasting camera, and sold a total of more than 1.7 billion units worldwide. In Japan, the product was called *Utsurun Desu*, meaning roughly, “It takes pictures.” Since the rise of digital cameras

and camera phones, production was drastically scaled back in 2012, and as of now, July 2015, only three different types are available for purchase.

carry not only medicine and makeup, but a wide variety of daily necessities. At their shopping website, a visitor can buy approximately 13,000 different items (as of July 2015).

QuickSnap

The world’s first one-time use camera, released by Fuji Film in 1986 (also known as a “disposable camera”). This product was the realization of a desire to allow anyone to easily enjoy photography. It was a big hit, especially among



“We could color our hair with spray, but...”

By using colored hair spray, a layer can add color to the surface of her hair without dying it all the way through. The color lasts about a day. If the layer uses a wig, she can easily change its color using lacquer spray or Copic markers (see also Volume 1: “You’re basically not allowed to bring wax or hairspray into the convention center.”)

Matsumoto Kiyoshi

A major drugstore chain. They



operated by East Japan Railway Company, that runs on the Tōhoku bullet train line from Tokyo Station to Sendai Morioka Station, as well as from Nasushiobara Station/Kōriyama Station to Sendai Station. It's been in operation since the Tōhoku Shinkansen first opened, and the name *Yamabiko* was used for the express train that ran on the Tōhoku main line before the bullet train line opened. It has a relatively large number of stops, not entirely unlike the *Kodama*, which runs on the Tōkaidō Shinkansen.

n.36

"Could I make weapons out of cardboard?"

Cosplay props can be made with any material, but the preferred material is lion board (see Volume 3: Lion). Additionally, one can recreate various textures by using such materials as polymer clay, which can be translucent, and wood clay, which made from wood. However, some events have restrictions on the size and types of props that can be brought in, so a layer must be aware.

► Page 40

Yamabiko 55

The *Yamabiko* is a limited express train

► Page 27

"I want to make you crossplay..."

"Crossplay" means to cosplay a character of the opposite gender: In Nagisa's case, it means she would dress as a man. Male characters tend to be very tall, so when crossplaying them, some women supplement their height by wearing thick-soled shoes. Female to male (FtM) crossplay requires various other efforts, including wearing shoulder pads to recreate the sturdy build, binding one's chest, and makeup tricks.

► Page 33

time hours. There are all-night events restricted to people 18 and older, as well as New Year's events, and it's easy for working people to take time out of their schedules to participate. In addition to cosplay events, there are club events called *Anison* DJ Events where they play *anison* (see Volume 2: *Anison*) all night long.

n.38

► Page 85

Hiepita

The name of a gel cooling sheet (the one Jintan had on his head in the first episode

Pocari

Short for Pocari Sweat, the soft drink sold by Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. It has 49 mg of sodium for every 100 mL of water, and stimulates hydration better than water. The anime *Ben-to*, which aired in Japan beginning October 2011, had a partnership with Otsuka Pharmaceutical, and Pocari Sweat appears in the series. It was even the title of episode 11 ("Pocari Sweat 125 kcal").

► Page 72

Night Event

A cosplay event held during the night-

► Page 58

"Makeup might fool some people, but not me."

Because cosplay makeup is worn to make a layer look like a character, it tends to go on thicker than regular makeup. It is not uncommon for a layer's aversion to heavy makeup to fade with experience, and the layers of her makeup will increase as she cosplays more.

n.37

► Page 71

A train enthusiast (fan of the railways). Originally, they were almost all men, but in recent years, there has been a rise in the number of female fans, known as *Tetsuko* ("Iron Girl," referring to the iron of the tracks). The trends of this hobby are diverse and sundry, including the *Noritetsu* (Riding Tetsu), who lust for experiencing the railroad and its train stations; the *Toritetsu* (Photo Tetsu), who love to photograph the cars; and the *Ototetsu* (Sound Tetsu), who are nuts about recording the in-train announcements and the departure melodies played at the various train stations in Japan.

to symbolize precision. They deal in a wide variety of products, from plastic models and RCs to painting supplies and any other tool you might need to build a model. The company's line of miniature motorized automobiles, the Mini Four-Wheel Drives, enjoyed its first boom from the late 1980s to the early 1990s, and then a second boom in the late 1990s, demonstrating a popularity that crossed generational boundaries, and its total sales numbers have risen to over 175 million cars to the present day.

► Page 96

Train Geek (Tetsu)

of *Anohana: The Flower We Saw That Day* (April 2011 anime)) sold by the Lion Corporation. The water inside the sheet evaporates as it absorbs heat, for a long-lasting cooling effect. In addition to using them to fight the fevers caused by colds and other illnesses, some people use them when studying or focusing on work.

► Page 87

TAMIYA

A manufacturer of model kits founded in 1946. Its famous two-star logo features a red star on the left to symbolize passion, and a blue star on the right

"The snow is so smooth."

Smooth, dry snow (powder snow) falls in cold, dry weather. Because Sendai is on the Pacific Ocean side of Japan, it gets less snow than areas on the Sea of Japan side, but when the seasonal winds cross the Ōu Mountains, they make the air drier and colder, so sometimes powder snow will fall.

n.40

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"The next thing I knew, I had all this equipment."

through the metal rails, and the wheels conduct that electricity to the train's motor, thus allowing the model to move. By hooking it up to a controller, one can create a realistic simulation, complete with switchable points. In addition to building the model itself, many enthusiasts also create a landscape (diorama) for the tracks, and there are even competitions where they are judged on their degree of perfection.

n.39

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N-Gauge

A train model that is scaled 1/140-1/160 that runs on a 9 mm wide track. Its name comes from its gauge (the distance between the two rails) being nine (N)

millimeters. An electric current runs



no hagi, or Thunberg's bushclover. At an event for the *Kannagi* anime, held in Shichigahama the summer of 2009, they printed the anime's heroine Nagi on wrappers for *hagi no tsuki* and *hagi no shirabe* ("clover melody," the chocolate version, also sold by Kashō Sanzen; no longer in production). They renamed them Nagi no Tsuki and Nagi no Shirabe, and distributed them as event swag.

► Page 143

PENTAX K-50

An entry model (beginners' camera) SLR camera sold since July 2013 by

► Page 130

"And, well, I have to save up some money for the wedding."

According to *Zexy Wedding Trend Report 2014*, the national average of money spent for a wedding ceremony and reception is 3,337,000 yen, or about \$33,370.

► Page 137

Hagi no tsuki

Meaning "clover moon," a dumpling-style confection that consists of sponge cake with a custard cream filling, sold by Kashō Sanzen since 1979. It is the most standard of standard souvenirs from Miyagi. It was named after the official flower of Miyagi Prefecture, the *Miyagi*

Tripod, memory card, bag maintenance equipment, etc.—even the most basic use of an SLR camera can require a lot of equipment. Additionally, lenses come in various interchangeable types, including the wide-angle lens (to take pictures of a wide landscape), the zoom lens (to take pictures of faraway objects), and the fixed-focus lens (for more natural pictures). If the photographer uses different lenses for different scenes, her pictures will come out even better.

Howl's Moving Castle (animated feature film by Studio Ghibli). The September 2011 issue of *Cosplay Mode* even had a feature on how to use makeup to create shadows and wrinkles to make a layer look older.



n.42

► Page 169

Animate

A chain store that specializes in anime, game,

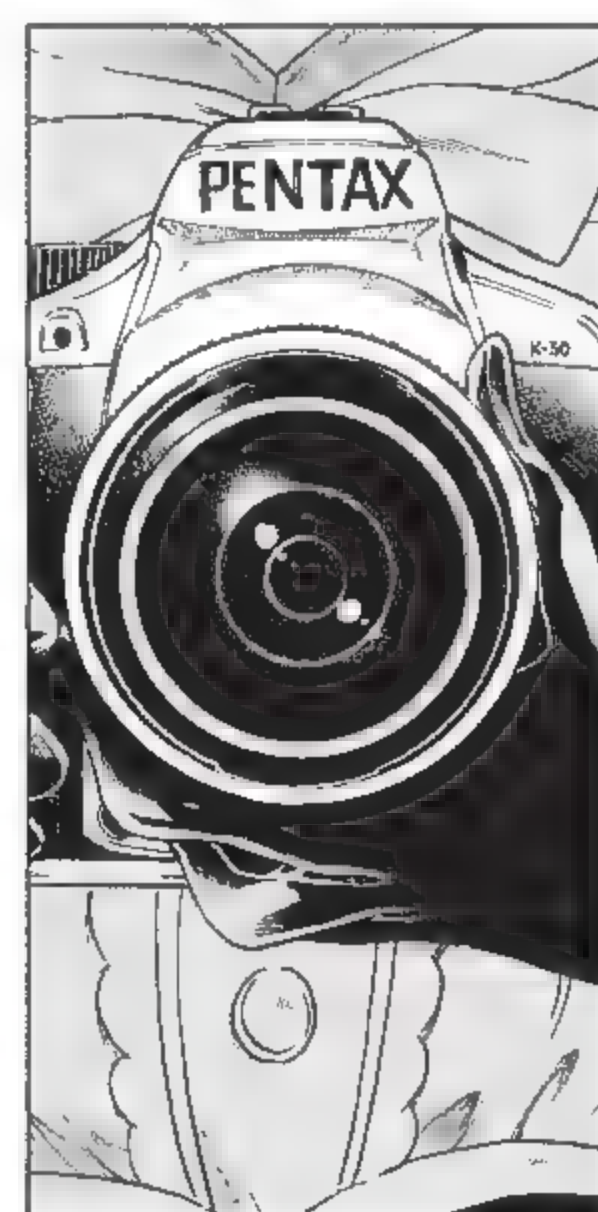
tographers are a relatively small group.

n.41

► Page 161

"But there are some characters that you just don't have the right look for until you're older."

There are many characters who are still appealing despite their older ages, including Balsa from *Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit* (light novels by Nahoko Uehashi, also has an anime), Enya the Hag from *Jojo's Bizarre Adventure* (original manga by Hirohiko Araki), and the old lady version of Sophie from



Ricoh Imaging Company. It is the only entry model that is rainproof and dustproof, making it very cost effective. Compared to Canon and Nikon users, Pentax pho-

chest-binding, but also for when warriors commit seppuku, or simply as underwear. The downside to using sarashi includes the difficulty of wrapping them around oneself and the ease with which they slide out of position.

► Page 172

Mesh fabric

Fabric woven or knit in a lattice style. Because it breathes very well, it is an especially popular material in athletics and active scenes, as well as during hot summer months.

Pantyhose

Long, thin socks. Hose is used to dress

use of the outdoors. They also attract many non-layer spectators.

► Page 171

Chest binding

This something done in FtM crossplay (a woman cosplaying a male character) to prevent the layer's chest from standing out. This is recommended for FtM crossplay regardless of the layer's chest size. Because it becomes difficult to breathe when the chest is bound too tightly, a layer must always take care not to overdo it. When a layer can't get her chest flat enough, she may also pad her belly.

Sarashi bandages

Narrow bandages made of bleached cotton. They have been used for centuries, not only for

and manga merchandise, run by Animate Ltd. It has more than 130 stores across Japan (as of July 2015). Its Animate-only goods enjoy immense popularity.

"There really are layers, just walking around town!!"

Some cosplay events are held with the city's cooperation. Layers can use designated shops while still in costume, and there might be stages set up throughout town—these events make good

COMPLEX AGE VOLUME SIX
(FINAL VOLUME!) ON SALE
FALL 2017!



specifically to bind the chest. Spru is short for "sports bra." Because they were made with sports in mind, they not only keep the breasts in place, but have high absorbency for sweat. The term "nabe shirt" comes from the fact that they were worn by *onabe*, women who desired to look more masculine, and the tank top style is the most popular.

► Page 176

Armband

Many event staffers wear armbands to help attendees distinguish them from the general attendees. If the event is large enough, sometimes staffers will be provided with a staff jacket.

up one's legs, to stave off cold, and to accentuate the beautiful contours of one's legs through the elasticity of the netting. They are differentiated from tights by denier, a unit measuring fiber thickness in fabrics. Stockings have fewer than 30 deniers, and tights have more than 30.

B holder, spru, nabe shirt

Each of these is an item used to prevent the breasts from jiggling and to flatten the chest. The B holder, or bust holder, was made

Translation Notes





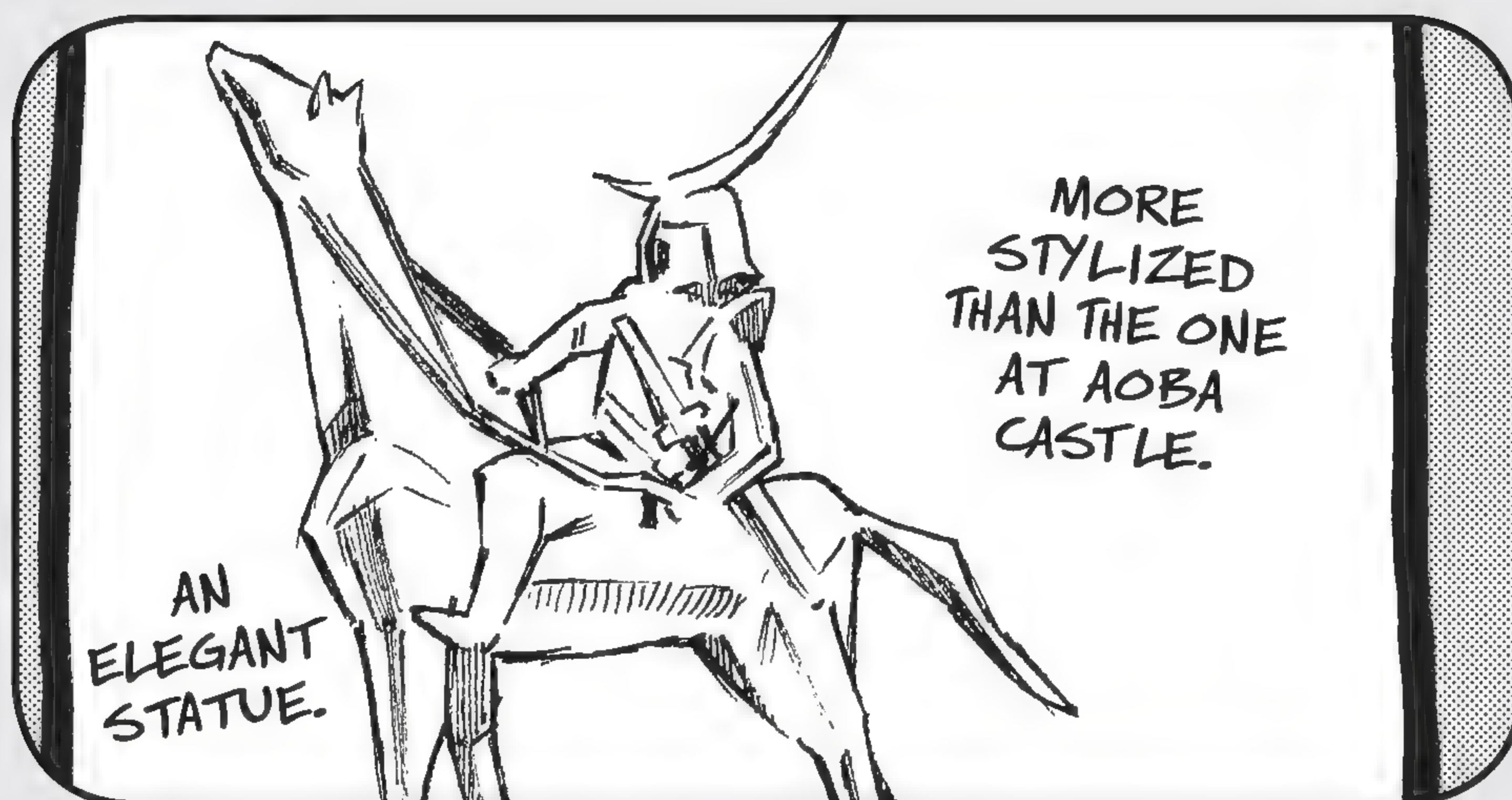
GETTING A 2 IN HOME ECONOMICS AND ART

In Japan, it is common for schools to grade students using numbers instead of letters. The top grade (an A) is 5, and the bottom is 1. Since home economics is where they teach sewing, and cosplay requires some artistic ability, it is understandable that Nagisa would have misgivings about her ability to make costumes.



PASSPORT TO SENDAI

The title of these bonus segments is *Sendai Yume Kibun*, which means "Sendai feels like a dream." It was likely taken from the Japanese travel show, "*Ii Tabi, Yume Kibun*," which means "Good Travel, Feels like a Dream."



DATE MASAMUNE

Date Masamune is the famous historical figure who founded the city of Sendai. He had only one eye, and his crescent-moon helmet struck fear in the hearts of his enemies.

MIYA-GIFTS

In Japanese, the word for “souvenir” is *miyage*, which sounds remarkably like the name of Sakuma-sensei’s home prefecture of Miyagi. “Miya-gifts” is the translators’ attempt at retaining the wordplay. It may also be worth noting that the most common souvenirs in Japan are food, usually something representative of where the souvenir was purchased. The main ones featured here are Hagi no Tsuki, beef tongue, *zunda* mochi, *kikufuku*, *namadora*, and *yubeshi*. Hagi no Tsuki is a little sponge cake with custard cream filling. *Zunda* mochi is a sticky rice cake with soybean paste. The *kikufuku* and *namadora* are local variations of classical Japanese confections—the *daifuku* and the *dorayaki*. Both are sweets that traditionally have a sweet red bean filling—the former being a sticky rice cake and the latter being kind of like two pancakes with filling in-between—but the Miyagi versions use cream instead. Walnut *yubeshi* is a chewy rice cake with walnuts.



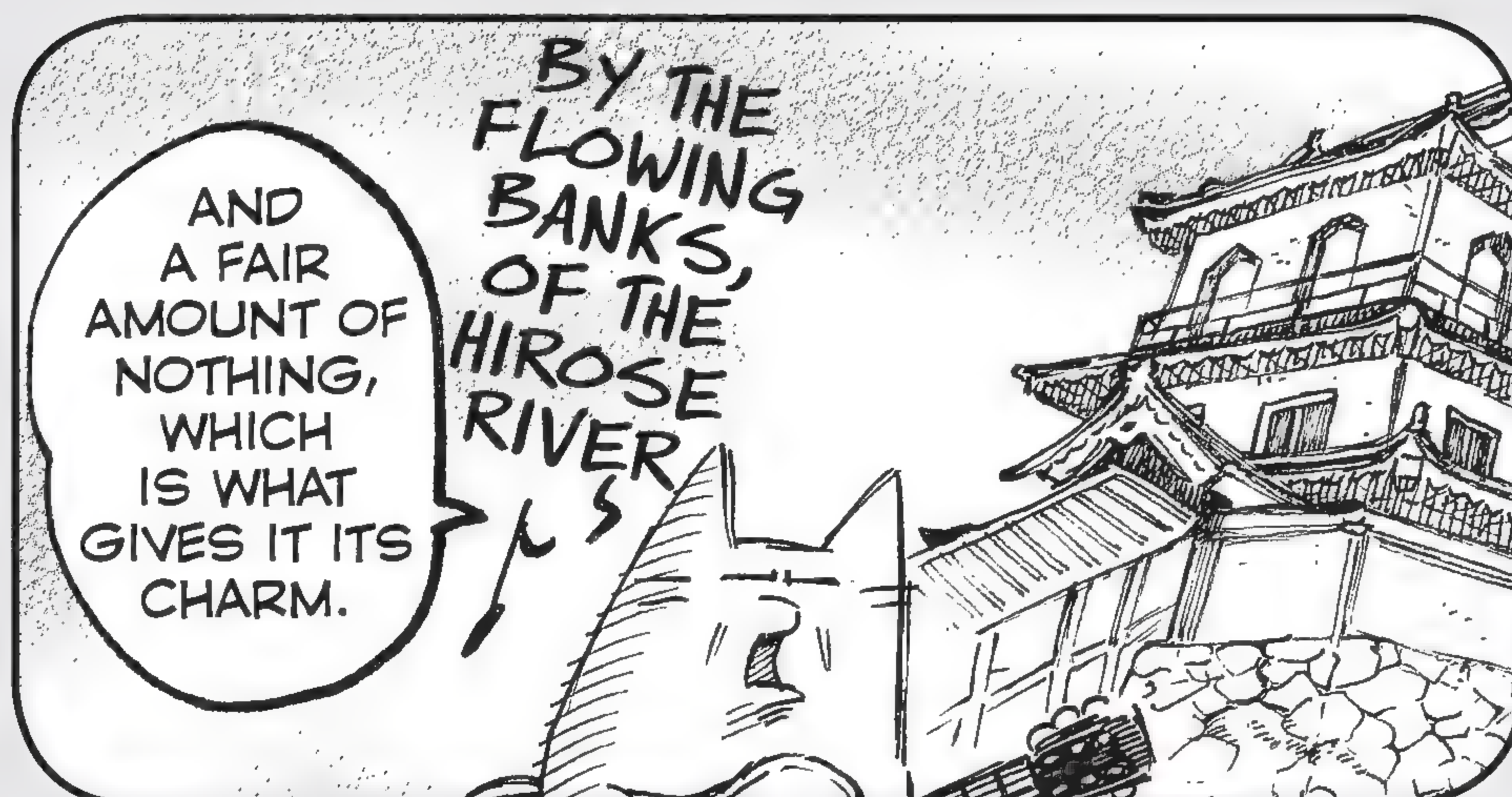
YOU DON'T MIND IF WE'RE NOT FORMAL

A more exact translation of Nagisa's question would be, "You don't mind if we use plain speech?" The Japanese language has different forms of speech that vary in levels of politeness. Generally, when speaking to someone who is older or otherwise above the speaker in a hierarchy, the one doing the talking would use more polite language, but not everyone is strict about formalities. Nagisa has noted that Kimiko does not use polite speech with her future husband and has followed suit, but remembers her manners and asks Haruta's permission, just to be sure.



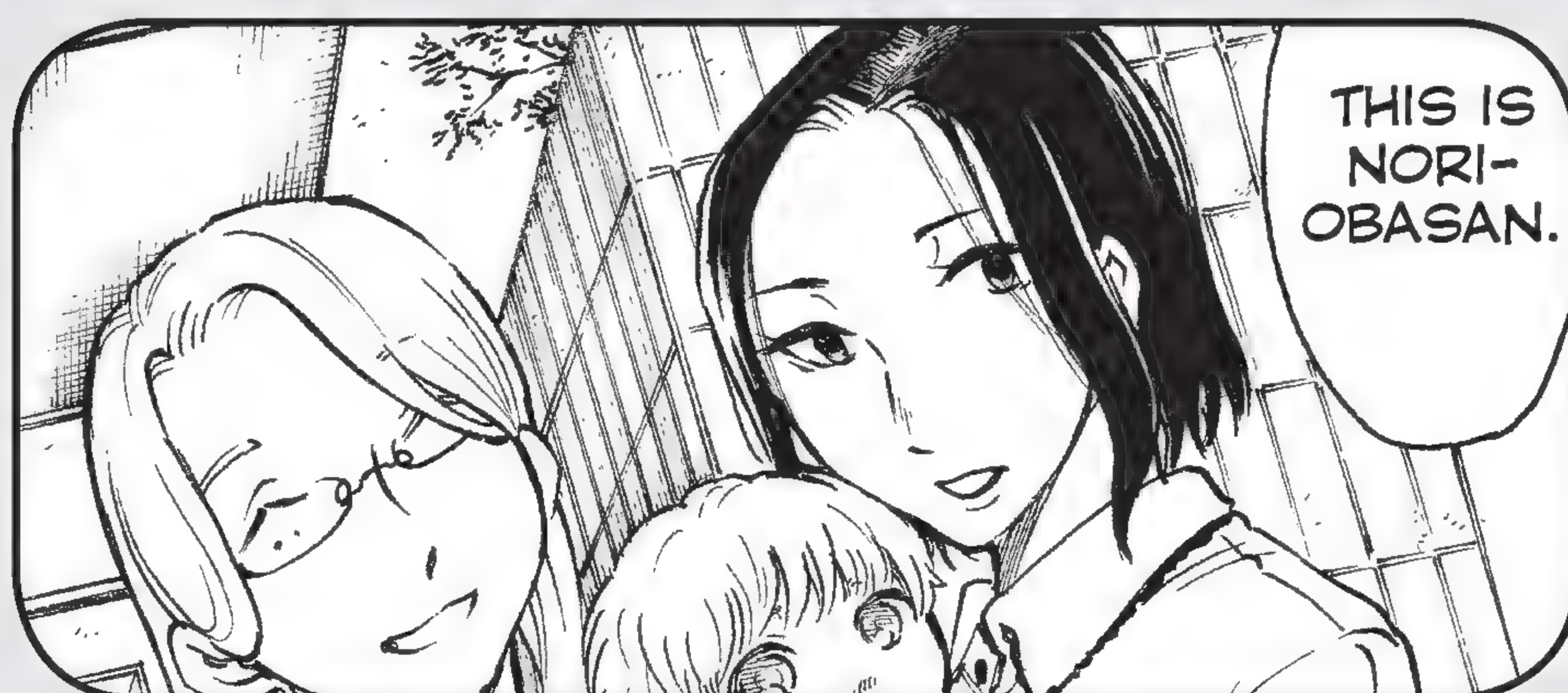
NABE

Nabe literally means "pot," and is short for *nabemono*, or "things in a pot." As seen in the picture, various ingredients have been cooked in this pot, and the diners are free to serve themselves whatever they want from within.



BY THE FLOWING BANKS

Here, Sakuma-sensei is singing the *Aoba-jō Koi-uta*, or the “Aoba Castle Love Song,” in which the singer recalls a lost love while describing some of the beautiful scenery of Sendai. The lyrics mention the Tanabata Festival, which is a festival to celebrate the annual meeting of the star deities Orihime and Hikoboshi. The Sendai Tanabata Festival is especially known for its elaborate decorations.



NORI-OBASAN

Obasan is a suffix attached to the names of middle-aged women. It literally means “aunt,” and in this case, Nori is probably close enough to the family that Nagisa might have called her Aunt Nori, but she is not a blood relative. It can also be used by itself to address women whose names are unknown.



WHITE DAY

This is a continuation of the Valentine's Day tradition. In Japan, Valentine's Day is a day for girls and women to give chocolate to the men in their lives, to express gratitude, respect, and of course love. If the feelings are mutual—especially in the case of chocolate given for love—the recipient of the chocolate returns the favor with a gift a month later on White Day. Traditionally the gift had something to do with (white) marshmallows, but these days the gift can be anything.



CAPTION:
COSPLAY-
PURIKURA

CAPTION:
DANGER!

BOOK: OKINAWA

BOOK: CLASS TRIP
& BOOKMARKS

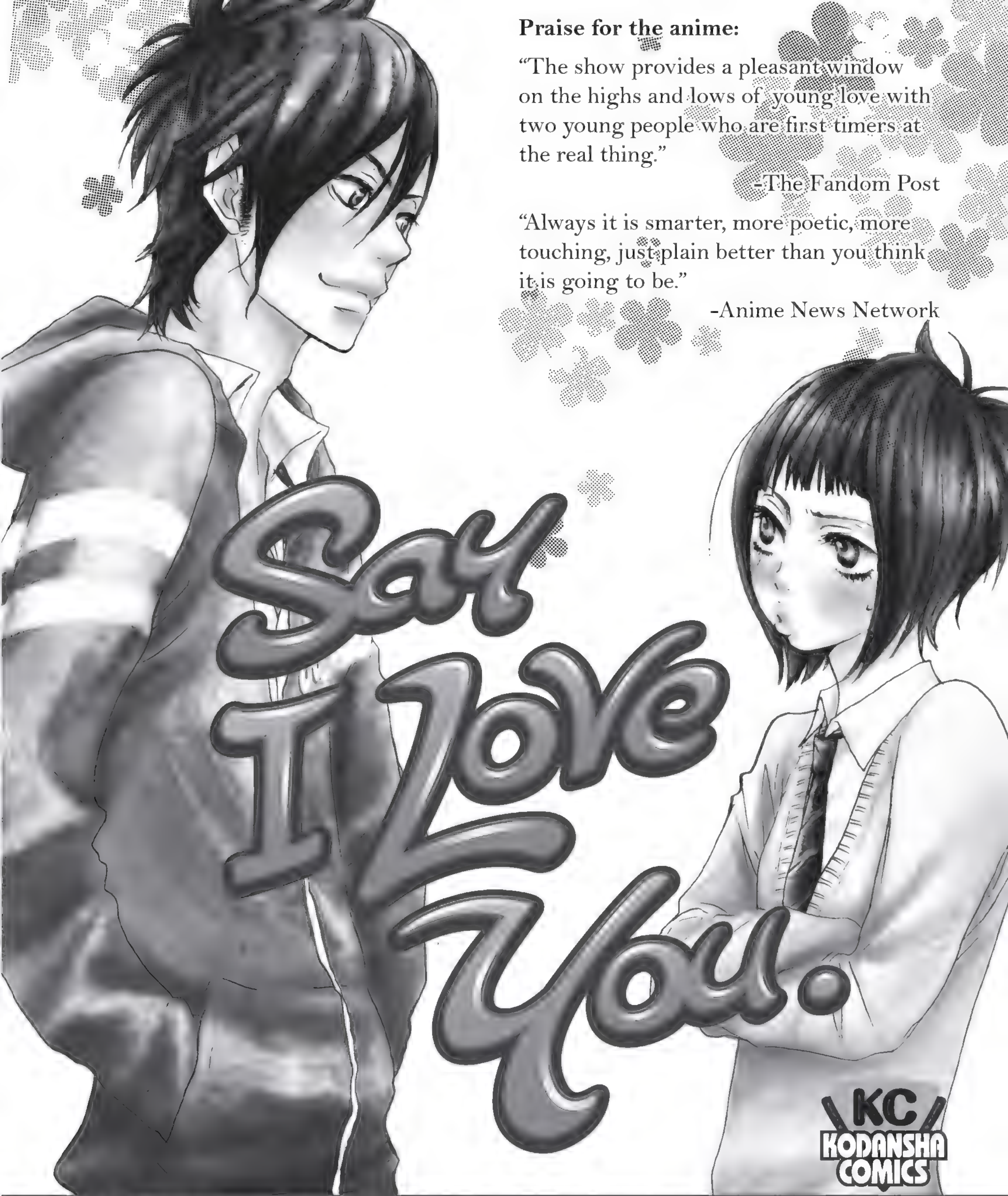
SIGN: CLASS 2-7 MAID AND
BUTLER CAFE

BOOK: NURSE DE
MIRACLE

2-7
学生
執筆

FLAG: CERTAIN VICTORY

ADOPT ME
PLEASE.



Praise for the anime:

“The show provides a pleasant window on the highs and lows of young love with two young people who are first timers at the real thing.”

-The Fandom Post

“Always it is smarter, more poetic, more touching, just plain better than you think it is going to be.”

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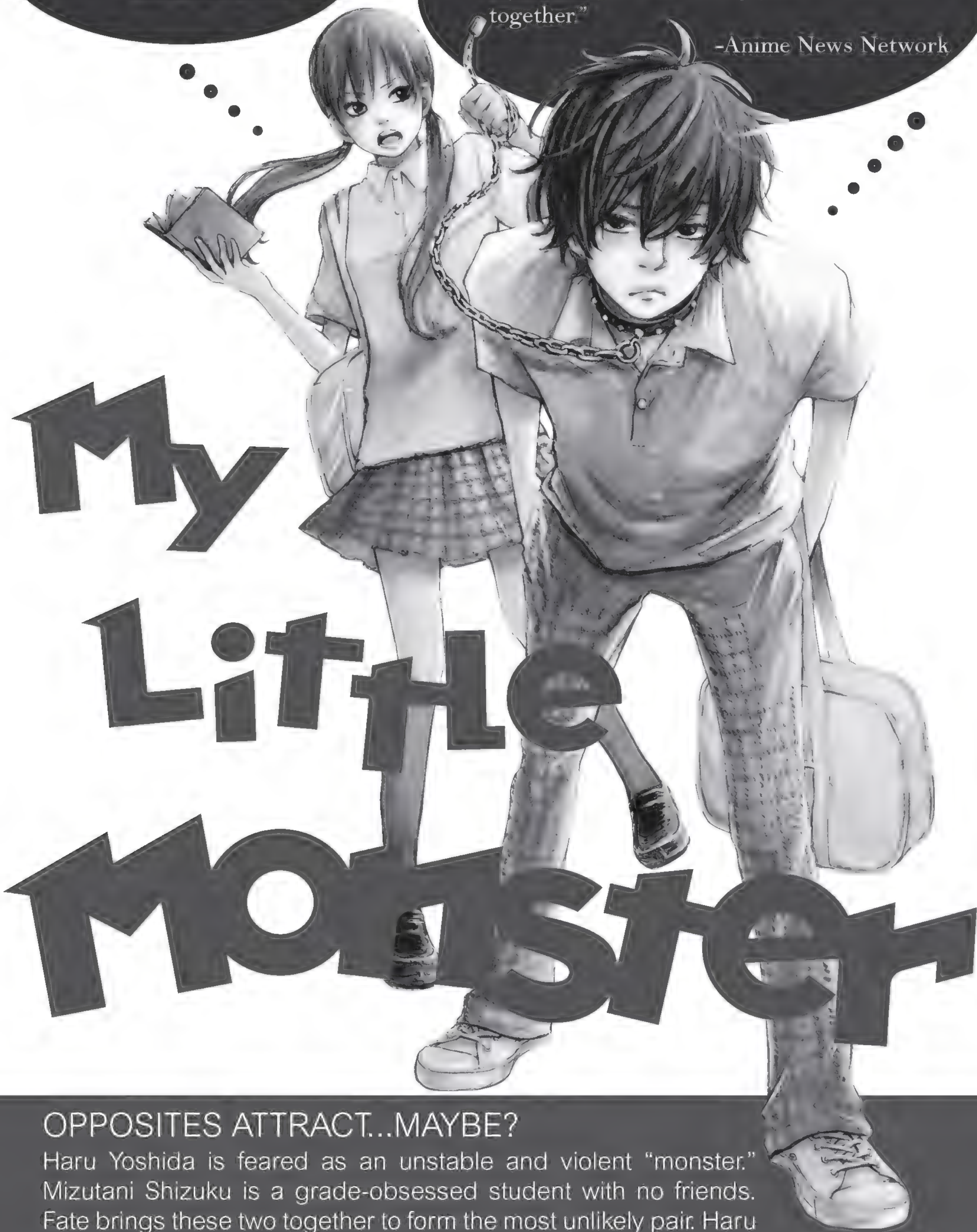
PRAISE FOR THE ANIME!

"This series never fails to
put a smile on my face."

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"A very funny look at what happens when
two strange and strangely well-suited people
try to navigate the thorny path to true love
together."

-Anime News Network



OPPOSITES ATTRACT...MAYBE?

Haru Yoshida is feared as an unstable and violent "monster." Mizutani Shizuku is a grade-obsessed student with no friends. Fate brings these two together to form the most unlikely pair. Haru firmly believes he's in love with Mizutani and she firmly believes he's insane.

Yamada-kun AND THE Seven Witches

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*"A very funny manga with a
lot of heart and character."*
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a Silent Voice

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"A very powerful story about being different and the consequences of childhood bullying... Read it."
-Anime News Network



Shoya is a bully. When Shoko, a girl who can't hear, enters his elementary school class, she becomes their favorite target, and Shoya and his friends goad each other into devising new tortures for her. But the children's cruelty goes too far. Shoko is forced to leave the school, and Shoya ends up shouldering all the blame. Six years later, the two meet again. Can Shoya make up for his past mistakes, or is it too late?

Available now in print and digitally!

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Complex Age 5

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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First published in Japan in 2015 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

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English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682337158

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Alethea Nibley & Athena Nibley

Lettering: AndWorld Design

Editing: Lauren Scanlan

Kodansha Comics edition cover design: Phil Balsman

